

Dr. Martin Appleton

Farm and Ranch REVIEW

11. FEB. 1954

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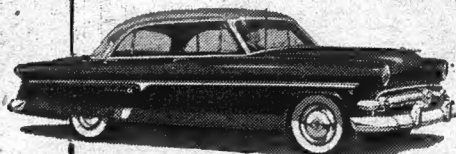
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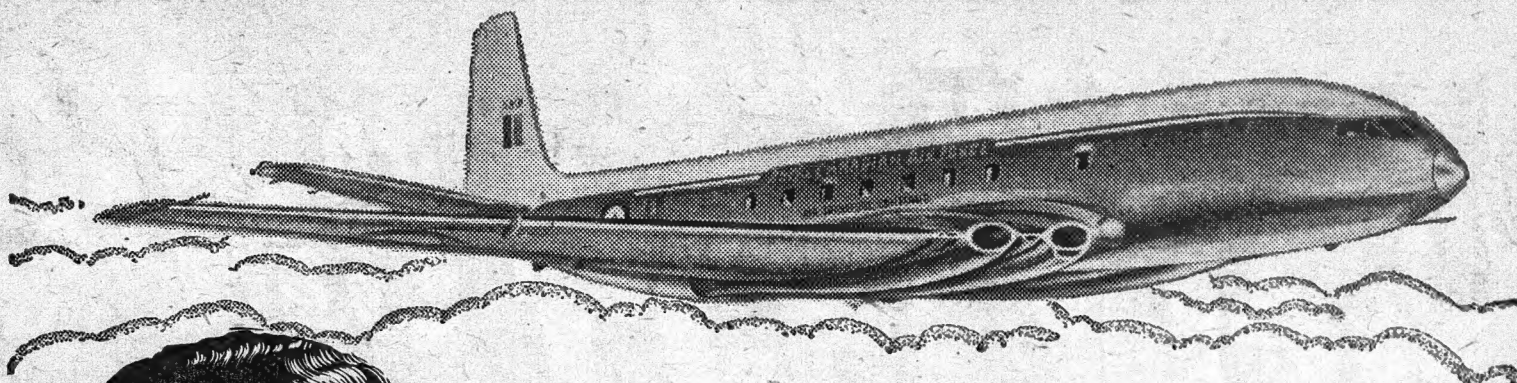
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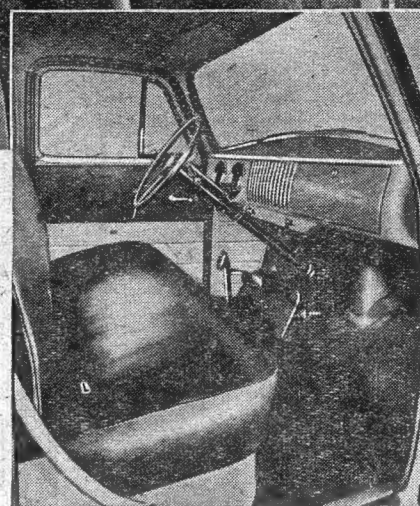


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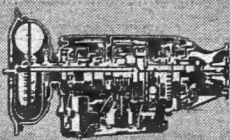
And though new efficient power is a big feature it is just one of the many which makes GMC outstanding. There's over 70 new features in all—and every last one is designed to give higher performance, greater profit, greater comfort and convenience. Nothing has been overlooked in the overall plan to bring you a truck that's filled with power, that's built to take the heaviest loads over the roughest going and come back for more. Ask your dealer to explain the brilliant, new advances that can be yours in 1954. You'll see immediately how they'll mean great new benefits to you in your business. Then choose the one model in 50 that's exactly right for your requirements and be ready to go for more profits in any trucking job.



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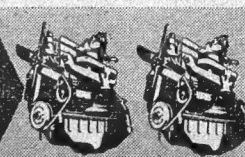
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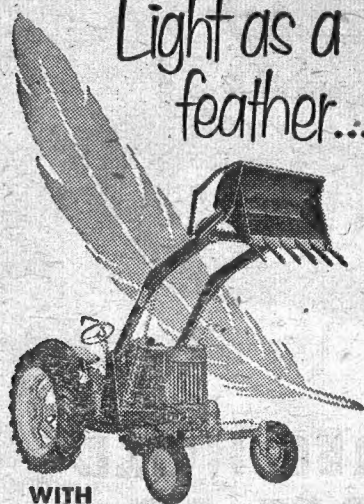
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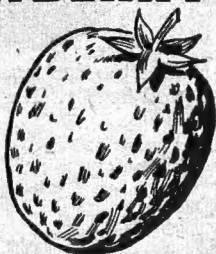
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The Farm and Ranch Review

706 - 2nd Avenue, West, Calgary, Alberta

Vol. L.

Founded in 1905 by Charles W. Peterson

No. 2

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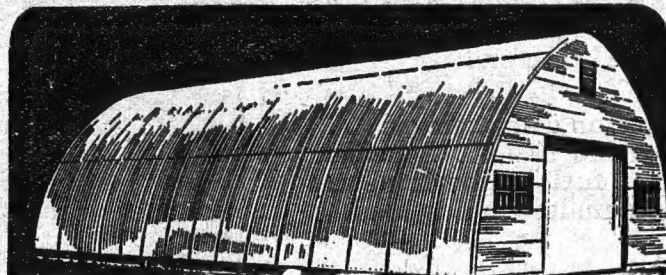
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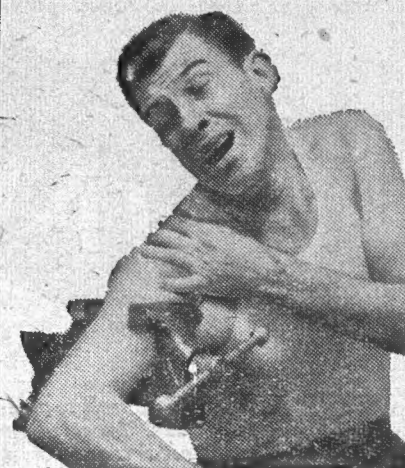
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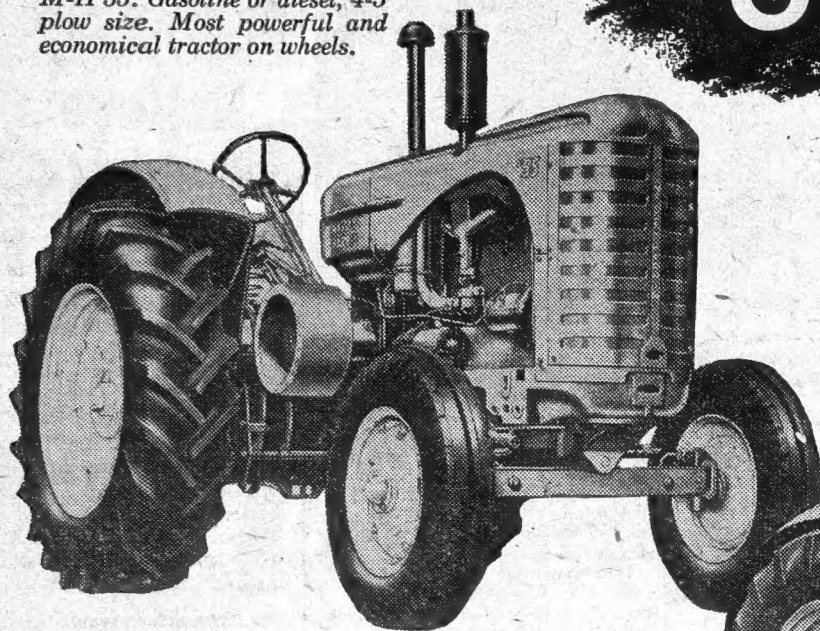
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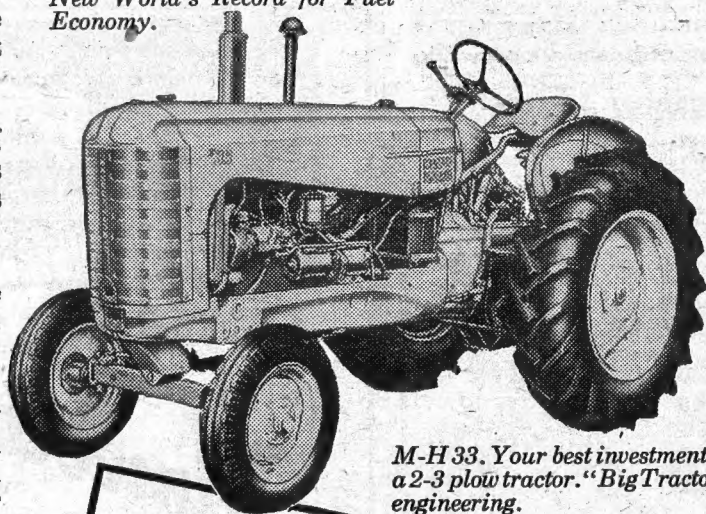
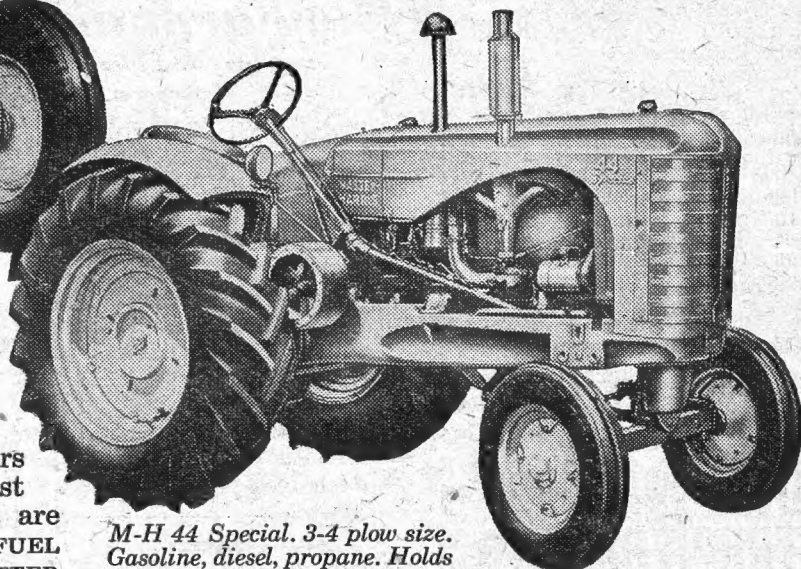
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The Farm and Ranch

Editorial Page...

OUR EDUCATIONAL SCANDAL—2

The teachers are prisoners of the system

THERE is one class of people who are more aware even than the parents of the fatal defect of the educational system foisted on the people of the prairies. That class is composed of the enlightened minority among our school teachers. They struggle against it. They are fighting a rear-guard action all the time against its wilder lunacies. But unless the people are aroused sufficiently to get into the struggle it will be a losing battle.

Our reason for this rather pessimistic conclusion is this: The apostles of Deweyism have not only gained complete control of all our western provincial departments of education, they have captured control of the teacher training schools. The graduates emerge from these schools with fancy Bachelor of Education diplomas and are thoroughly indoctrinated in the Dewey system. Only several years of experience in the class-rooms will jolt them into realization that the system is wrong, that it doesn't work because it cannot work. In the process of making the discovery, many of them find their nerves strained to a breaking point. As one authority points out, "frustration is an occupational disease of the teaching profession of today."

But every year our teacher supply gets a large infusion of new Deweyites so that as time passes the struggle against the system must face ever-increasing odds. In her book on the crisis in Canadian education—"So Little for the Mind"—Dr. Hilda Neatby devotes special attention to the glaring defects in the teachers' training courses. We do not intend to cover that ground here, except to note that these courses are not designed to turn out people with well-rounded and active minds. They are designed to graduate teachers who have spent much of their time learning how to operate project paper-chases, how to meet and solve administrative problems like getting along with janitors.

We think that the whole system may be best understood by comparing it with the operation of the Communist Party. In doing so we make it clear at once that we don't believe for a moment that the earnest if foggy idealists who run the system have any sympathy whatever with Communism.

The essence of Communism is the acceptance by its adherents of a rigid dogma. The creed permits of no deviation in opinion. Anyone seeking promotion within the party must conform to the thought pattern handed down by the top hierarchy. If you substitute Deweyism for Communism you have a perfect example of the way the educational system works on the prairies.

The Deweyites have established the course of studies, they have thrown out the traditional method with its emphasis on learning in favor of their system with em-

phasis on doing, on arousing interest, on intelligence tests, on group activities, on social studies and above all with its utter contempt for real scholarship in the old-fashioned meaning of the word. It is a system which scoffs at discipline and encourages "self-expression".

Having set up their course of studies, they train the teachers to conduct them in conformity with "Dewey principles". Then, to see that these courses are carried out without deviation by the teachers, they have their school inspectors. The position the enlightened minority of teachers find themselves in is well nigh impossible. They have to operate a sort of educational underground, lest they arouse the ire of the

Correction on Margarine

A COUPLE of months ago we ran a story on the experiments being conducted in Minnesota on the feeding of vegetable oils to calves. Over a period of 15 years, the Minnesota people found consistently that when vegetable oils were substituted for butterfat in milk, and the milk fed to calves, the calves died.

In the course of these experiments they tried all kinds of vegetable oils and the result was always the same. All the calves died; though when butterfat was put back in the milk and the vegetable oil removed, they recovered their health. We said, in an editorial, that as margarine, which is made from vegetable oils, poisons calves, human beings should take note of the fact.

This story and editorial evoked a four-page letter from the Vegetable Oils Institute of Canada. The writer pointed out that these experiments were not conducted with "hydrogenated" vegetable oils; that when "hydrogenated" vegetable oils were used the stuff didn't kill the calves. In fact, they thrived on it.

We confess that we don't know exactly how margarine is "hydrogenated". The encyclopedia says that it's a chemical process involving the introduction of hydrogen. One of our spies in a margarine plant promised to get an explanation of the process for us, but he mysteriously disappeared into the silences and has not been heard from again.

The point made in our previous editorial obviously requires modification in face of the additional facts we have acquired. That point was that margarine should be labelled dangerous if fed to calves. As this was in error, we think that the suggested label should be modified to read something like this:

"This margarine has been hydrogenated and no longer has any of the toxic qualities which make unhydrogenated vegetable oils poisonous to calves."

inspectors. They do that by drilling their pupils in fundamentals in periods stolen from "projects" or "social studies" and in encouraging parents to carry these drills on at home.

To understand what all this means we must understand the changes that have come to pass in the training of teachers. In the old days high school graduates qualified as teachers after taking a one-year course at a normal school. Others went to the universities, took a regular science or arts course and then went into teaching, again with the one-year course at normal school. That no longer happens.

To hold a school today a teacher must have taken a three or four-year special university course and have a "Bachelor of Education" degree. The old arts and science courses have been watered away down for them and the main concern of the students is to acquire teaching techniques — something they once picked up without trouble in a single year. Now it takes four years in Alberta. For the teachers, a Bachelor of Education degree is a union card in a tight, closed-shop union.

The education degree has replaced the academic degree for teachers. The faculty of education, University of Alberta, had a staff of 32 in 1952. Less than half of the degrees held by this staff were Canadian academic degrees. Thirteen had Canadian educational degrees and there were 6 American degrees in education.

Back in 1929, Saskatchewan had a headquarters staff of four and only one had an educational degree. Of the 50 school inspectors, only two possessed educational degrees while 40 had regular university academic degrees. By 1950 school enrolment in Saskatchewan had dropped by some 60,000 pupils. The headquarters staff was up to 17. Of these the seven highest ranking officials all had educational degrees. The inspectorial staff numbered 64 and all but 6 had educational degrees.

To sum up, this is the condition which prevails today: We have discarded our old concepts of education. No longer do our schools stress the importance of such vital subjects as arithmetic, spelling, reading, writing, grammar, history and geography. Our students pass through our schools and emerge often with only mere glimmerings of understanding of these important subjects. Their deficiencies might be remedied, at least in part, if they took the old-fashioned degree courses at University. Instead, those who become teachers go into a course that has been stripped as bare as possible of intellectual content of any kind. They get their degrees in education and return to the class-rooms.

Not only do they lack the old techniques of teaching: they are often devoid of the basic knowledge which should be taught. Having never studied English grammar, with any thoroughness, how can they be expected to teach it. The sorry fact is that many of the teachers who never got beyond high school were much better educated, than those who so proudly tack their Bachelor of Education diplomas on the walls of their class room.

This is not the fault of our teachers. It is the fault of the system for they are helpless products of it. But if the farmers of the prairies can be aroused to need for action to change the system, it can be changed. One enlightened farm parent, armed with the facts set out in Dr. Neatby's book, might well arouse his whole community. The very least we should do is insist that all candidates for school boards not only be informed of the facts but take a stand on this issue.

Pensions for farmers and tax exemptions

WE'VE been hearing a lot of banquet oratory on the importance of farming to the Canadian economy. Farming is the biggest business on the prairies and, in terms of the new wealth it produces annually, it is the most important business in Canada. Listening to this oratory often makes us wonder why, if farming is a business, it isn't recognized as such by our income tax laws.

Take social security for example. Just about every Canadian business today has a retirement pension scheme to cover its employees. Most of these schemes operate something like this: the employers and employees make equal payments into a fund. The employers' contributions are regarded by the income tax departments as much a legitimate cost of doing business as rent and wages. So the employer can deduct the cost of his pension scheme from his income before he computes his taxes.

The employees are in the same position. They can deduct their pension contributions from their income before they compute their taxes. When the time comes for them to receive their pensions, they are taxed on that income, provided it exceeds their basic exemptions. If their income is below the basic exemptions allowed under the act, then they pay no tax on their pensions. On the other hand, if they were taxed on their pension contributions when they are paying into the fund, the tax might be rather substantial.

But there is no provision in our income tax laws that enable the farmers to deduct from their income the cost of any private pension schemes they may set up for themselves. Inasmuch as the cost of many of the other private schemes is added to the price structure, the farmer as consumer pays for everybody else's special pensions. But nobody pays anything toward his special old-age security.

There is no doubt that all the security schemes that have been adopted by industry in the last decade are an important factor in giving this country a high-cost economy. While security payments are tax-exempt as costs of doing business, each business makes allowance for them when it is computing the selling price of its products. In the process of converting a bushel of wheat into a slice of toast, the grain is increased in price by the cost of benefits for railway workers who move it, for the elevator employees, the flour mill workers, the bakery workers and the retail clerks who hand it to the consumer. But the forgotten man is the farmer. Nobody tacks anything onto the price of a loaf of bread to give him holidays with pay, sickness and accident insurance, a five-day week with overtime and a retirement pension.

So it seems to us that the farmer has a very strong case for being allowed to set up his own pension scheme and deduct the cost of it from his taxable income. When this is suggested to Ottawa policy makers they immediately retreat behind their well-worn weasel phrase — "it would be administratively impossible". It would complicate their bookkeeping.

In this case, their objection has no validity whatever. A farmer could buy one

of the Government's own annuities. All that would be required would be that he produce the contract for inspection by the income tax officials and from then on produce his receipts for annuity payments every year. It would be a simple matter for the Government to draft regulations to govern the type of annuity he could buy. Receipts for contributions to charity are easily handled now. All that would be involved would be one more receipt.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that President Eisenhower has recommended to Congress that the American social security act be extended to cover an additional 5,000,000 self-employed persons, including farmers, doctors and other professional people.

Now that the Americans are doing it, perhaps that will provide the Canadian Government with an incentive to make this reform which, on all counts, should have been done long ago.

★ ★ ★

Grabbing the credit

WE'VE almost become reconciled to the genius of the Alberta Government for grabbing all the credit for agricultural works done by the Dominion Government. What gives us cause for wonder is why the Dominion goes merrily along ignoring the fact. It is almost as if the Federal Government wants all its good works to be done anonymously and is happy to let somebody else grab the credit.

For example, the Alberta Department of Agriculture is now putting out a bulletin called "Science and the Land". It is "compiled by the Radio and Information Branch, Alberta Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with —". It proceeds to list, in small type, the University of Alberta and seven Dominion agencies. At the top of the bulletin, with an Alberta Government crest, is the statement that the information is issued under the authority of the Alberta minister of agriculture.

Most of these reports deal with recent developments at the Dominion Experimental Farms. This is mentioned in passing, but if the reader gets the impression that this service is being provided by the Alberta Government, the Alberta Government will certainly not be unhappy.

Mind you, the job is well done. The writing is clear and so is the meaning. What irks us is why the Dominion Experimental Farms are not doing this publicity job themselves. Why all this roundabout system of dispensing information? Who gave the minister of agriculture for Alberta the right to issue under his direction information from the Dominion Experimental Farms?

Through the years, and particularly under the Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner, the Dominion Department of Agriculture has done a terrific job for prairie farmers. Perhaps we should admire the modesty of the department. We don't. We believe that it only does half the job when it finds answers to

farm problems. The other half is in getting the information into the hands of the farmers on the land. Some stations rely on personal contact. Others work through local newspapers and radio stations. But this doesn't begin to get the job done. The Dominion has so much to talk about in connection with its Experimental Farms that it ought to be making a full-time job of it. At least it shouldn't be letting this public relations job fall like a ripe plumb into the hands of a government which is notorious in its neglect of the welfare of its farm population.

★ ★ ★

Primary lessons in self-protection

IT seems to us that there are some lessons to be drawn from the success that has crowned the efforts of eastern textile people to have dumping laws enacted against American textiles. The first lesson is this: When something happens to create difficulties for eastern industry a united front forms immediately around that industry. The labor unions, the Chambers of Commerce, the Service Clubs, newspapers and allied industries all rally to the support of the sufferer.

In the West, however, when something happens to create problems for farmers the rest of the people go their merry way without giving the matter a second thought. The margarine issue was an excellent case in point. The strike of the elevator employees in Vancouver last year was another.

Though it will provide some relief, the anti-dumping regulations will provide no cure for the illness of the Canadian textile industry. It is too badly over-expanded for any cure to be effective for long. The key to successful textile operation is a continuous run. But there are not enough people in Canada to support a textile industry as large as ours. Whether wages abroad are lower or higher than Canadian wages does not matter too much for we cannot compete with either high-paid American labor or low-paid Japanese labor. Both of them have industries which are geared to continuous operation.

The simple solution to our textile problem is to let half those engaged in it go broke. Perhaps then the others will be able to compete by reason of being able to operate more efficiently. But we doubt even this for the costs of production of the textile plants have risen sharply in recent years as wage boost has been piled on wage boost.

In any event, we don't feel much sympathy for anybody engaged in the textile trade in Canada. The workers prefer to buy American margarine instead of Canadian butter. The consumers of Western Canada have for years paid outrageous prices for the clothes they have had to buy. Blue-jeans, for example, cost almost double the price in Alberta that they sell for in Montana. And that is about par for everything else. Most people in the West would be very happy indeed to see the Canadian textile industry close down so we could reduce our cost of living substantially with imported clothing. But that is not to be. As we said at the beginning, one reason why the industry is being saved is because of the political maturity of the people of the east. When they want something they know how to go about getting it.

Trade and politics are hard to divide

By BEN MALKIN

IN the ideal world society, international trade wouldn't have anything to do with politics. Each country would produce the things it is best able to make, these would be traded around on a private basis, and because each nation was making the commodities it could produce most economically, everyone would benefit. But the world has never been ideal. Trade has always been tied up with politics in various ways. Tariffs have been used in the United States to help build up American industry. The same thing has been done in Eastern Canada, at the expense of the Canadian consumer.

Trade has also been a weapon in international politics. Since the start of the Korean war in 1950, for instance, the western nations, and especially those receiving aid from the United States, have refused to export anything at all, strategic or non-strategic. Last year, Canada's exports to Russia were valued at around \$400.

It looks as if this is changing, and greatly expanded trade between Russia, China, and the rest of the world (including Canada and the U.S.) may be one of the big developments of 1954.

There are plenty of signs in the wind. Mr. C. D. Howe, Canada's minister of trade and commerce, in January issued a statement saying that Canada is now prepared to sell non-strategic goods to Russia, in return for dollars or gold. The United States secretary of commerce, Mr. Weeks, indicated that his country is prepared to do the same thing when he was asked by a Minnesota businessman about the possibilities of selling soybean oil and butter to the Soviet Union.

West Germany and Japan are rapidly increasing their commerce with China particularly. This represents a serious challenge to Britain, to whom China is traditionally a large export market. If Britain wants to keep that market in future, she'll have to step up her exports to China before West Germany establishes herself too firmly. Last year, Britain sold only \$20,000,000 worth of goods to China (the U.S., incidentally, bought \$23,000,000 worth, while selling none). That amount will no doubt be very substantially increased this year.

Russian Gold

Russia will likely be able to pay for large quantities of goods. She's exporting oil and manganese, among other items, to west European countries. Also, she's evidently been hoarding gold for a long time, and is now paying with that mineral, especially for her purchases from Britain. In the last

few months, it's estimated that Russia has exported around \$100,000,000 worth of gold.

What's she prepared to buy? Machines of all kinds are, of course, high on Russia's list, as on China's. These can be both strategic and non-strategic goods, depending on how they're looked at. A machine to make civilian boots can also be used to make army boots, just as leather itself can be used for civilian or military purposes. Belgium has just contracted to build steamships for Russia. These are for civilian use, but are they non-strategic? They release Russian shipyards for the production of war vessels. These are some of the problems that arise, and the interpretation of the term strategic is clearly so open to change that it will depend on the state of tension between the Communist and non-Communist countries.

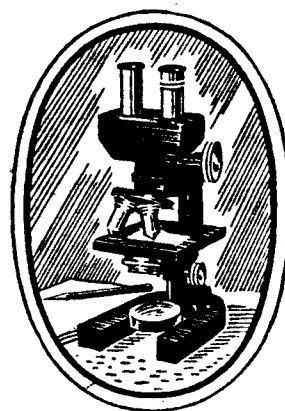
Meantime, what of Canada? At the moment, Canadian businessmen and agricultural producers aren't pressing very much for trade with Russia. But if other markets become tighter, they may be expected to do so. After all, Russia recently contracted to buy New Zealand butter. Why not Canadian butter? Moreover, on the Kremlin's own admission, there are fewer cattle in Russia today than in 1913. Maybe Russia is in the market for beef. Other consumer goods, including clothing, are a possibility. Once the politics is taken out of trade, a complete new market for Canadian goods of all kinds may open up.

Forage crop plan sets new record

SASKATCHEWAN farmers this fall produced enough seed through the Department of Agriculture's fall forage crop program to seed 18,570 acres. In announcing the final figure, R. E. McKenzie, director of the provincial plant industry branch, said nearly all orders were for the recommended grass-alfalfa mixtures, the others being for individual grasses or alfalfa.

Of 1,238 orders received 1,167 were from farmers or ranchers and 71 were for demonstrations or projects. The total farm orders compared with the previous high of 1,076 in the fall of 1951, and with 217 orders in the fall of 1947, the first year the forage crop program was in effect.

In the fall program just completed, the southwest area led with 530 orders for forage seed, followed by the southeast area with 348 orders, the northwest with 162 orders and the northeast with 127.



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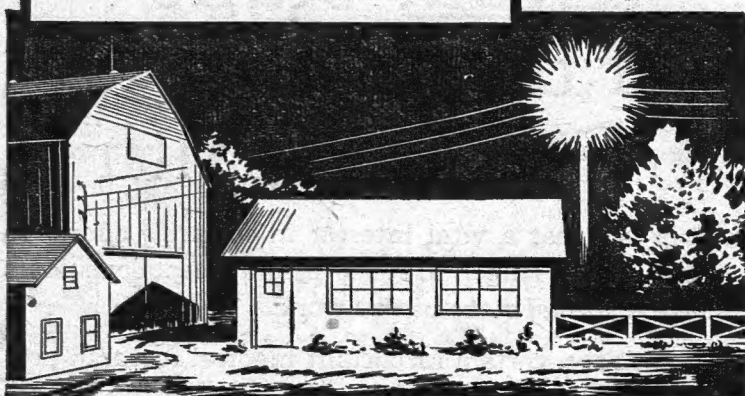
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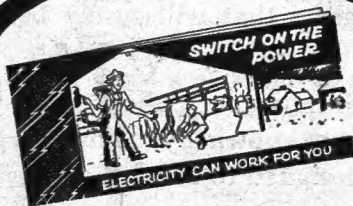
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With a bloody bruise in every blow

By GRANT MacEWAN

IT seemed like a ridiculous thing to do, to consciously and deliberately strike a steer that was on its way to slaughter and catch a fat lamb by the wool on its back, just prior to butchering it. We had a reason, however; we did it deliberately to furnish a demonstration that no student or other onlooker would be likely to forget. A mere thirty minutes later, with steer and lamb slaughtered and hanging as warm carcasses, the result of the abuse was startlingly clear; there were the bruises, deeply imprinted in the flesh, like carbon-copy marks magnifying an all too common mistake. The bruises were patches of damaged meat in the very best parts of the carcass.

When a fat steer proves ornery and refuses to walk up the loading chute, the temptation to use cane or stick and beat him over the back will come quite naturally. Pigs behaving unco-operatively, as pigs have every moral right to behave, will invite the same treatment, with an extra punch from the toe of a boot; the result in damaged meat will be the same.

A representative of the meat trade, watching a steer receiving a beating with a stockman's cane as it was being unloaded at the stockyards, remarked, "Those blows are costing somebody a dollar each." And while it may appear quite natural to seize the escaping lamb by the handiest handful of wool, usually on the back, nothing is surer than that each yank on the fleece is leaving its mark in the flesh and leading to damaged tissue in the highly-rated lamb chops.

Unfortunately, the person who supposes that he must employ physical persuasion in handling meat animals seldom is satisfied to use the whip on the lower shanks but aims at the most accessible part, the back and loin, where bruising damage must be most costly. Nearly half of the bruising damage in beef involves those parts from which club, T-bone, porterhouse and sirloin steaks and prime rib roasts come. And in the pork carcass, they are the loin and ham, again the most expensive cuts, that suffer most from bruising.

I put the question to one of our Health of Animals Branch inspectors, one of those men whose duty it is to prevent damaged meat and unhealthy meat from entering into the trade canals and who encounters some carcasses and many portions of carcasses that must be condemned on account of bruising: my question was about what headway we were making in the reduction of bruising. The question was suggested by

the thought that appeals about handling meat animals with special care are not new. Have those pleas produced improvement? He said, "The situation is not as bad as it was some years ago; we made progress for a while but of late, I'm afraid, that improvement has not been continued. There is still far too much bruising."

It is estimated that ten per cent of the pigs marketed in Canada show bruising to some serious degree. A check made at a Calgary abattoir at the end of 1953, showed that for a three-weeks period, 13½ per cent of all the hams handled showed external bruises and between five and ten per cent of all the bellies carried bruises. In the case of beef cattle, about six to eight per cent of all carcasses must be trimmed and therefore discounted because of those injuries which do not show up until after the hides are removed.

In any case, bruising must be seen as a serious drain upon meat animal resources and costing the industry a few million dollars every year. The inevitable fact is that bruised meat must be rejected for food purposes and those carcasses upon which trimming is necessary, lose in both appearance and sale value. And even though the bruising is not detected until after the grower has completed sale and received settlement for his animal or animals, the loss is one which, in the long run, the producer cannot escape.

From the annual report of the Veterinary Director General for Canada, year ending March 31, 1953, one can learn the principal causes for condemnation of meats and meat animals slaughtered under federal inspection. One of the most prominent causes is bruising and while it may be common knowledge that many thousands of portions of carcasses are condemned on account of bruising each year, it will be somewhat more of a shock to note how many entire carcasses have to be sent to the tank to be rendered into inedible products, for no other reason.

It is true that most of the entire carcasses suffering the indignity of condemnation are the result of trouble in transit. When an animal "goes down" in freight car or truck, it can be so severely trampled that a generalized bruising results. The lesson, however, is none the less clear and it should be observed that in the year in question, 486 carcasses of cattle, 74 veal carcasses, 122 sheep and lamb carcasses and 546 pig carcasses were condemned in total on account of bruising.

Perhaps there is no hope of eliminating bruising completely

Come and Get It!



Photo by Richard Harrington.

but certainly much or most of it could be prevented and all those people who have the responsibility of handling livestock should be constantly alert to the dangers and aware of methods which will safeguard against such forms of loss.

What is to be done? The first need is educational; everyone who handles livestock should be made to know that all forms of punishment or abuse administered externally, even though they do not leave their mark on the outside, will be translated to flesh bruising with its attendant inflammation and discoloration. This effort must be continuous even though repetition does breed monotony.

Main Causes

The next step is to identify the main contributing causes and seek to remove them. Overloading and overcrowding in freight cars and trucks is a source of much of the bruising problem. At the same time, underloading, though not so common, can lead to rough times when in transit. In addition to unscrupulous use of whips and sticks, horns, narrow door-ways, protruding nails and end of planks, failure to properly partition stock of one kind from stock of another in mixed loads and rough handling during transit are among the chief factors.

Where a bull is being marketed along with other cattle, he should be partitioned or tied at one end of the car or truck. Partitioning would also be warranted where boars, stags or heavy sows are being shipped with pigs of usual market weight.

Then, too, exposure and frost-bite and failure to properly bed the stock car or truck, can produce equivalent conditions. During winter when there is the threat of severely cold weather, stock cars should have added protection; heavy building paper

secured with slats on the north side of the car is a safe precaution when temperatures may be expected to drop.

Cars should be well bedded. Straw is used quite commonly at all seasons for cattle and in the winter for pigs. In the summer season, sand is a better choice for bedding pig cars and when weather may be extremely hot, that sand should be made wet with water before the animals are loaded.

What constitutes optimum loading? Much will depend on local circumstances, but in a general way, where standard stock cars of 36 feet length and eight feet width are in use, 22 head of fat cattle averaging 1,200 pounds would seem to be about right, or 25 cattle weighing 1,000 pounds or 28 of the 800-pound kind. The same type of car should take from 100 to 110 head of 85-pound fat lambs. Up to 85 pigs of 200-pounds each can be carried in a car if weather is favorable, but smaller numbers should be carried when temperatures are running very high. Some shippers would reduce their carloads to 70 or 75 of such pigs in the mid-summer season.

While the message about bruising should be beamed at all stockmen, producers and handlers alike, it may be particularly appropriate to ask young people who have club calves, pigs and lambs, to consider the problem and exercise every possible care. One can just imagine the utter disappointment that has followed for well-meaning people when they have bought calf club winners at premium prices, only to find after slaughter that the carcasses were a mass of bruises, traceable to careless handling prior to arrival at the show. It has happened more than once.



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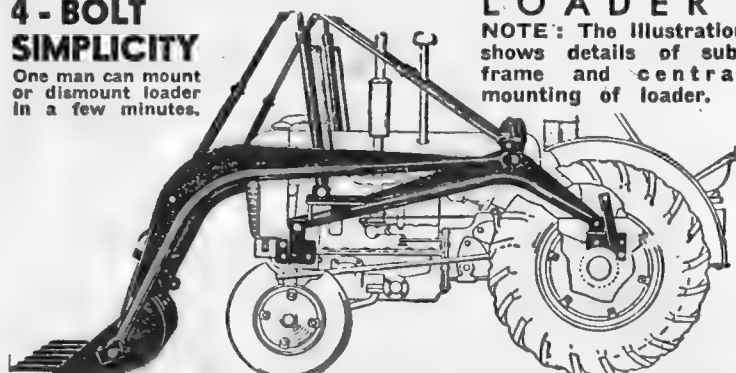
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Can our Prairie ever be treed?

By PERCY H. WRIGHT

IF a plant scientist from Australia, or the steppes of Russia, were to visit prairie Canada to see for himself what success has been attained by the program of shelterbelt planting which has been sponsored by the Dominion Government ever since the Indian Head Station was established, away back in 1903, what sort of a report would be made?

Obviously, we have had all sorts of weather since 1903, and by this time we should know the worst that can happen to our shelterbelts and our afforestation projects; — as well as have a good notion of the favorable effects of a cycle of rainy seasons.

There are available abundant photographs that show "before" and "after" planting; and a sample of these has been chosen to accompany the present article. Such pictures seem to imply that all man need do in order to make the desert blossom as the rose, or rather, to make the vast plains, originally filled with buffalo grass and the native thermopsis, a parklike land of pastures and trees, is to plant trees, give them clean cultivation for a few years until their

where its distribution from year to year is most irregular.

Perhaps the greatest handicap of the forest, as compared to grassland, is not so much that it takes greater quantities of water to maintain so many leaves in a turgid condition, as that the forest tree is a perennial plant, which must somehow survive drouth periods between periods of adequate moisture, if it is to survive at all.

The grasses, at least the grasses which have invaded the semi-arid country, have solved the problem by going dormant during dry weather, and by acquiring the ability to endure dormancy in days of what would be good growing weather were moisture present, thus avoiding dessication of their few remaining living cells.

Well, we have experienced repeated drouths since 1903, the most memorable being the "dusty thirties" when the Prairie Provinces came nearer to returning to desert conditions than they have since settlement. However, some part or other of the prairie area is dry every year, and we do not have to wait for the year of exceptional drouth to observe the effects of

Then—



leaf cover is sufficient to shade the ground, and let time do the rest.

It is true that by tree planting itself conditions are somewhat improved for future plantings of trees, but undeniably there is a limit to the process of improvement. The view that man need do little but plant, plant and wait, implies that nature made a mistake when she chose grass instead of trees, and that man is able to set her right.

Opposite View

The opposite view is that it is not worth while to fight nature, that trees planted where rainfall is deficient will find that rainfall fails them entirely in the occasional year, and will then die out. A well-known principle of climate is that the areas of the world where rainfall is scant are the very areas

lack of rainfall on both crops and shelterbelts — or on the native bush, for that matter.

Many shelterbelts have died out, of course, among them those which were planted under the aegis of the Forestry Nurseries and according to instructions that embodied the best light of the time. Others, planted according to the same principles, but under somewhat different natural conditions, have lived to grace the countryside and give pleasure and protection to the farmer inhabitants of the plains.

If we are to reject both the extreme alternatives and find some intermediate answer to the question "can the prairies be treed?" what shall we say? Where shall we draw the dividing line? Under what conditions will trees survive when planted

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on grassland, and what lessons can we learn that will be useful when we come to make further plantings?

Our reply will sub-divide itself under several headings:

First comes the topic of the distance from the natural margin of grassland and woodland. Obviously, the deeper we go into the grassland, and the deeper in the grassland we attempt to grow trees, the greater the difficulty that will be experienced. The margin of the two types of ground cover, of course, is never very sharp, for we always have bluffs that grow gradually thinner and less numerous as the aridity increases. Also, the "front" varies somewhat from period to period, just as the line of trenches varied in the First World War.

The bluffs begin to prosper and to extend themselves when a series of years occurs that is supplied with extra rainfall, only to suffer serious set-backs again when the pendulum swings to the opposite extreme.

Second comes the question of the adaptation of the soil to penetration by tree roots, and by rain water. Under natural conditions, the lighter soils nourish tree growth sooner than do the heavy types, in spite of the fact that the heavier types sustain much heavier stands of grass and grow much more satisfactory crops of the grains. The reasons are not far to seek. The rain is able to penetrate to a greater depth in the sandy type, and the ability of the top layers of soil to act as a mulch for the lower strata more or less compensates for the lesser water-retaining capacity of the lighter soil.

The tree roots, penetrating to a greater depth than the grass roots,

it is easy to see why soil preparation is so important in giving a tree plantation an adequate start.

Third comes the topic of "Continuing Care." By this I mean not the cultivation and hoeing that in every case must be given until a leaf cover is established, but cultivation AFTER that date.

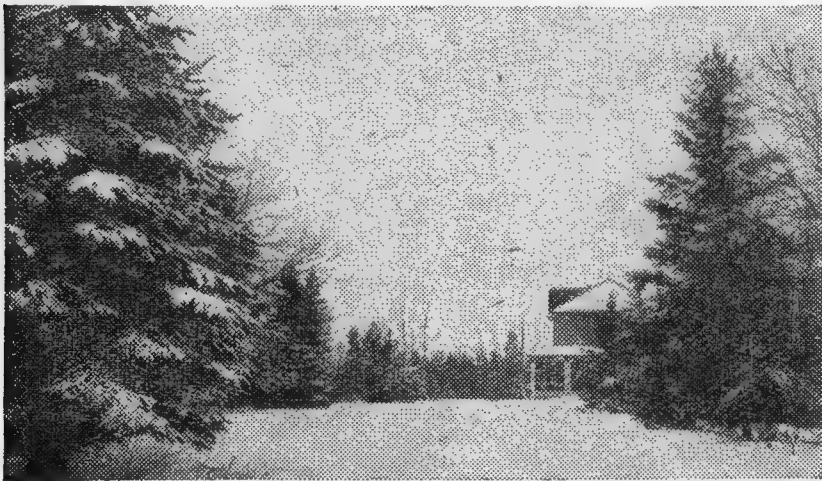
In reality, there is no time when a shelterbelt ceases to need care, if it is planted in a district where grass tends to encroach on shrubs and trees instead of trees and shrubs on grass. If the leaf cover is complete, there is not much purpose in cultivation under it, but then, leaf cover is rarely complete enough, and it has been found that some gain is secured when a mulch of vegetable material is applied under the trees with a certain modesty and restraint. The gain is comparable to that observed in field crops when a trash cover is maintained. "Care," then, for the later life of a shelterbelt, can consist not only of cultivation but also of a wise use of the mulch.

Cultivation can be important, too, and since it cannot be given under the trees, it must be given ALONGSIDE them, on the adjacent area into which the tree roots can reach, but which the trees are not required to shade in order to conserve the moisture supply there. In the dry country, each tree should have a chance to move its roots laterally as far as it can, and have a chance to draw on the moisture reserves of soil that it is not required to shade. In the nature of things, it cannot possibly shade so much area.

Moisture Reserve

In practice, this "wrinkle" of cultivation ALONGSIDE the shelterbelt is extremely important. Apparently

—and now



are able to go down after this moisture more efficiently than the grass roots. Indeed, there are places, even in the most worthless sections of the prairie, where a water table exists which the tree roots could reach if the seedling trees were only able to establish themselves successfully in the surface soil. Such places need only be planted by man, given reasonable care and complete protection from fire, to become miniature forests.

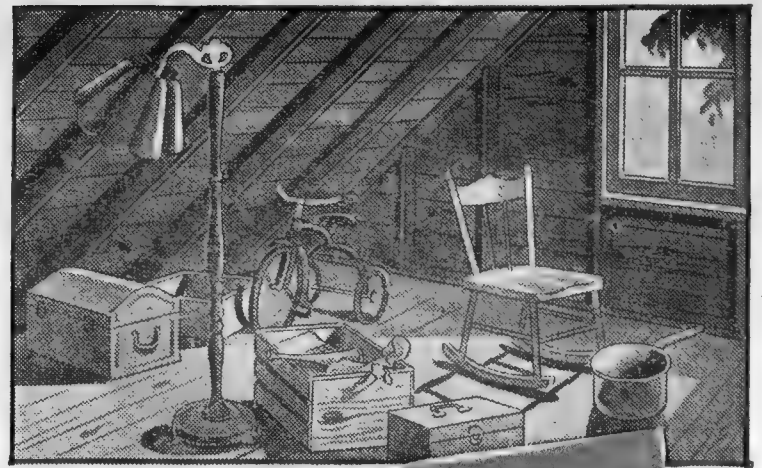
On the other hand, under cultivation the opposite type of soil has the advantage, for man's plows and harrows provide for aeration to a certain depth, and the loosening of the surface provides for an increased ability to absorb sharp and sudden showers without run-off. In other words, the heavy soil acquires something of the advantages of the light soil when it is given cultivation. AT THE SAME TIME it retains its own advantage, the greater water-holding capacity which is such an important factor in giving grain crops a chance in dry areas. With this explanation,

there is a certain reserve of moisture carried from year to year in the cultivated land, and this reserve, small as it must be, acquires a great value in years when no effective rainfall occurs at all. Grass, in particular, is the mortal enemy of the tree, and all grasses, particularly all running-root-stalk grasses, must be kept out of the soil into which the tree roots are expected to penetrate.

Fourth comes the consideration of land topography, or the levels of surface drainage. In the Prairie Provinces, snowdrifts are commonly caught by shelterbelts as well as by the natural bluffs, and these snowdrifts may furnish a large part of the moisture the trees use to grow with in the subsequent summer.

If the trees are on low land, so that the moisture released by the snow is absorbed by soil filled with tree roots, the trees are much more likely to thrive. The natural scattered bluffs are always on low land, not land low enough to be classed as "undrained" and so liable to drown

(Continued on page 14)



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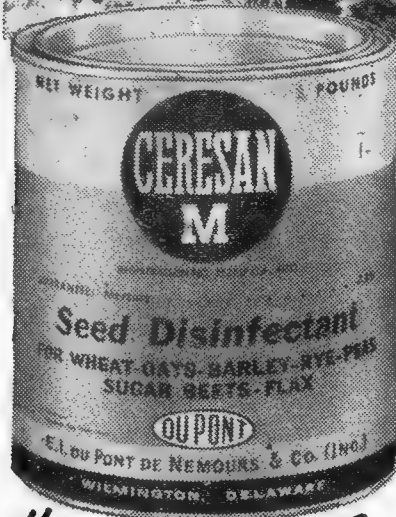
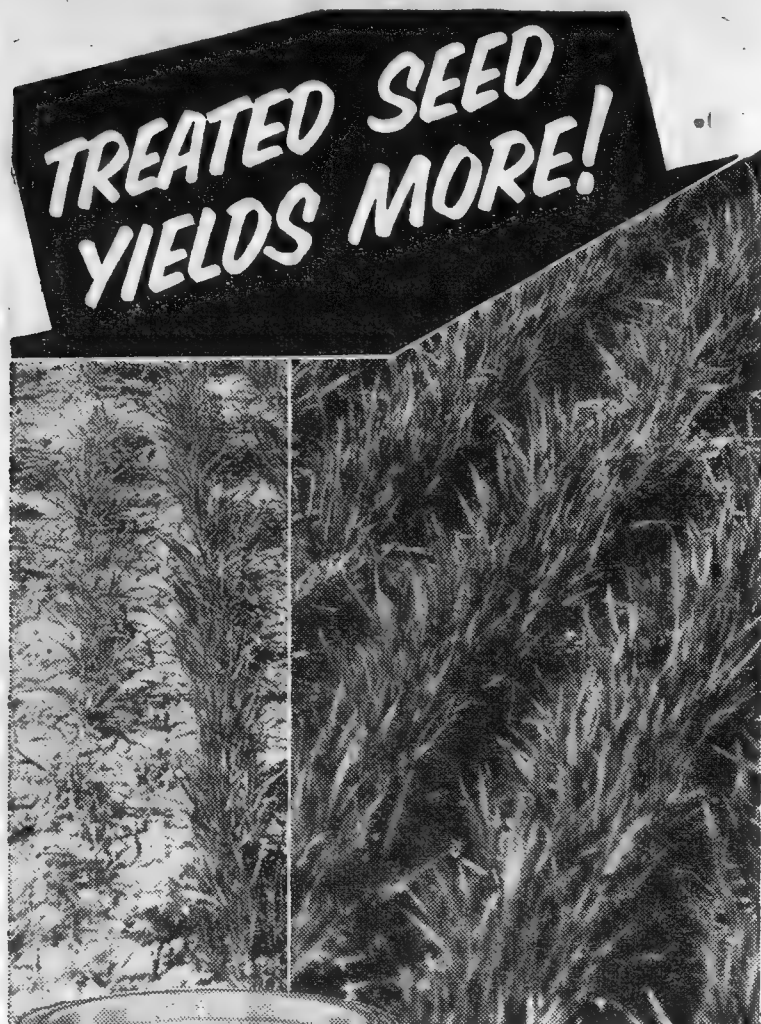
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MONTREAL



Professional traits in handwriting

By DAVID MEYER

WHAT human and professional qualities would we look for in a nurse?

We would first of all expect efficiency of a high order. A nurse must be steady, dependable, methodical. There is no room in a nurse's make-up for lackadaisical habits.

She must have a mind for details. While her routine may be limited to a few essentials, every item must be clearly etched in her memory.

A nurse should be objective, that is, she dare not have the type of temperament that will get the emotionally involved with her patients' ailments, especially if she is assigned to mental wards. She has to be poised and possess a solid nervous constitution. Moreover, she must have a hard core within her so that her patients' complaints, dissatisfactions and grumblings will not arouse unpleasant reactions in her.

And she should be sufficiently humble to take doctors' orders without trying to inject her personal "notions" into a case.

Our sample was submitted by

*Meyer,
June 31*

a nurse of many years' experi-

(Continued from page 13)

out the trees, but low enough to retain the snowdrift water.

It will not happen often, of course, that the place chosen for a plantation of trees will be in such a nicely balanced low spot, but at least a part of the snowdrift water, that from the later melting, can be counted upon to sink in where it is wanted if the slope is not steep. In any event, a "low spot" can be simulated by throwing up an earthen embankment of a few feet height. Such embankments can be wonderful aids to gardens and shelterbelts, but they must be provided with spillways, to prevent them from being overflowed and so washed out.

Resistant Type

Last, but by no means least in importance, comes the selection of the most drouth-resistant types of trees. Trees are not characteristically like grass, able to "go dormant" in rainless periods and yet survive, but a number of them possess the capacity to endure drouth, with a minimum of leaves, or with leaves or needles that transpire a minimum of moisture, in a state of dormancy or semi-dormancy. In effect, trees vary in all degrees between the water-loving cottonwoods and willows, and the drouth-resistant Siberian larch, which casts almost no shade and is said to be the last living vegetation found in the depths of the Gobi desert. In between come such trees as the Boxelder, using considerable water, but better able to make a comeback after partial dying than most trees; the Green Ash, really one of the most wonderful of trees for the dry lands; and the White spruce.

ence. The strokes are firm, so we know she has a solid physical and nervous constitution. The size of the letters is even. This tells us she is poised, reliable and an imperturbable worker.

She uses the combination of the rounded garland at the bottom of her letters and the sharp angle. We know, therefore, that she is kindly, tolerant, sympathetic and enjoys contact with people while at the same time being vigorous in doing what she has to do for the patients' own good.

The writing is beautifully simple and direct. Our nurse is not given to sloppy sentimentality or exhausting emotionalism, qualities that would wear her out and fail to benefit her patients. She is feminine in her responses, but also objective.

The writing is small. This informs us that she is conscientious, a sharp observer, devoted. She is also modest in a sweet, unpretentious way.

Note the break in the first word. This is an indication of intuition, a subject to which I shall return in a later article for it is a most important factor in an individual's creative life. This intuitive quality in our nurse tells us that she is capable of developing a sixth sense with experience which informs

However, the Siberian larch is not alone in its ability to endure extreme dryness. Almost as drouth-withstanding are the various species of pine which have already demonstrated their hardiness, such as the northerly strain of the Scotch Pine (source in Finland or North Eweden) the native Jack and Lodgepole Pines, the Swiss Stone Pine and the Mugho Pine; and also the columnar Juniper of Montana and adjacent States. The Colorado Spruce seems to be better suited to dry land than the White Spruce, and if it were not subject to sunscald in spring weather it could be more highly recommended. To this list, of course, must be added the ubiquitous *Caragana arborescens*, the standby of all prairie shelterbelts.

In the last decade a new tree has come to the fore. This is the Manchurian strain of the Chinese Elm, and much harder than the strain as originally secured from central China. This tree combines swift growth and drouth resistance in a truly remarkable way, and it and hybrids of it with various other Elms are likely to be of increasing importance in prairie tree plantations in the future. As it also brings some resistance to the Dutch Elm disease, we are sure to hear more of it, and not only in prairie Canada.

We cannot, naturally, make our tree plantations entirely out of the extremely drouth-resistant species, these or others yet to be introduced. However, there is no reason why a larger proportion of our planting cannot consist of them. In fact, there is no reason why the settlers of the low-precipitation and high-evaporation areas cannot make the occasional tree plantation entirely of those species which are best equipped to survive.

What does your handwriting reveal?

Are you a natural-born salesman or would you make a better mechanic? Have you got hidden talent for art, cookery or stenography? Would you be interested in getting the verdict of an expert on the character your handwriting reveals?

The Farm and Ranch has arranged with Mr. David Meyer, the author of this new and regular feature of the Farm and Ranch, to analyze the handwriting of its readers. Here are the rules:

Write at least 12 lines with pen and ink on good paper. Do NOT — repeat — NOT use a ball-point pen or pencil. Send it together with 25 cents in coin: —

DAVID MEYER.

7½ Jane St., New York City, New York, U.S.A.

Do not send stamps and always enclose a self-addressed envelope.

her in a flash what a situation requires of her. This intuitive sense does away with laborious and often unnecessary, painstaking and time-consuming logical thinking out of a problem. Our nurse would be an asset to any doctor and institution.

This sample is so perfect an illustration of character and temperament that I am tempted to go a little further in its analysis. Observe the absence of unnecessary trimmings, curls, fancy swirls. The writer has a keen eye for essentials and is rarely bogged down by side-issues or turned from her duty by trifling, egotistic details. Fussiness is not in her nature.

Finally, the small size and the break in the first word tell us that she has an excellent memory and knows how to use it to best advantage.

Our nurse would also make a first-rate laboratory worker and research worker.

time country

The above sample was written by a veterinarian.

This writing has many of the qualities, and significances, of our nurse's writing. It is small, vigorous, regular, simple.

But is much narrower, you will note, and has rigid projections at the ends of the words. These two differences tell us of a world of difference in the make-up of our two writers. But before we tackle the differ-

ences in their constitutions, let us see what made our writer interested in a veterinarian's career.

Note that he uses the arcade, that is, rounded tops to his letter "m". From this formation we know that he is interested in technological subjects, such as the natural sciences, anatomy, physiology. And he also likes to handle the tools that go with his profession. In fact, he is a tool lover and enjoys the use of the scalpel, scissors, knife and other hardware of his profession as much as an artist loves his palette and brushes.

From the simplicity and regularity of his writing, we know that our veterinarian is a steady, unpretentious and hard-working professional.

Now for the differences between him and our nurse, to which I alluded earlier. His writing has rigid projections at the ends of words. I shall return to this trait later in articles on emotional disturbances as revealed in handwriting. For the present, suffice it to say that these projections, coupled with the narrowness, tell us that our veterinarian is ill at ease with people. Any close or intimate contact with people makes him very uncomfortable and throws him off his pivot. He is easily taken advantage of, for that reason. And, also for that reason, he would make a poor doctor for humans, which is why he chose the profession of veterinarian.

Solution to last month's puzzle

B	A	R	E	S	S	H	I	N	A	M	A	P	L	E	C	O	I	L	S
I	R	A	T	E	P	A	R	E	R	O	L	E	A	N		O	R	I	O
N	I		A	R	A	R	E	X	C	E	L	L	E	N	T	T	E	G	O
G	E	E		A	W	E	S	T	A	R	E	N	E	A	R	S	P	E	W
O	S	S	A	A	A	N	I	E	A	S	T	S	I	E	B	O	S	S	
R	O	L	A	N	D	R	I	E	R	S	L	O	E	D	R	E	A	D	S
A	R	A	R	A	L	I	O	N	E	L	D	E	C	R	I	E	S	O	K
N	E	S	S		F	I	N	N	M	A	P	S	H	I	E	D	A	D	E
G	A	S		P	E	A	G		C	I	T	E	S	O	P	S	F	L	O
E	D	I	F	I	E	S	C	A	S	E	H	I	E	S	M	O	I	S	T
T	I	N	T		P	A	R	S		B	I	T	S	B	A	R	E		
S	T	U	N	T		R	O	M	E	B	A	R	S	R	E	C	A	N	T
T	E	D	S		R	A	N		S	C	A	N	T		S	I	T	E	A
A	R	E		T	E	P	I	D		A	N	T	S	U	P	S	A	T	E
I	S			M	A	S	T	E	R	S		D	E	S	I	R	E	C	L
R	E	T	I	R	E		S	E	E	P		R	A	M	P		P	O	D
A	M	O	N	G		W	A	R	D		C	O	L	L	E	G	E		
M	U	L	E		T	A	M		L	E	A	S		N	U	I	T	R	I
A	S	K		A	S	S	E	T		V	I	E	D	S	M	E	W	F	E
R	U	L	I		P	R	O	T	E	S	T	E	D		P	R	A	Y	N
T	A	P	E	D		A	S	P	E	N		O	L	I	V	E	R	E	G
S	L	I	T	S		R	E	S	E	T		N	E	V	E	R		N	A

A MESSAGE: To the Farmer who is thinking about BUYING A NEW TRUCK!

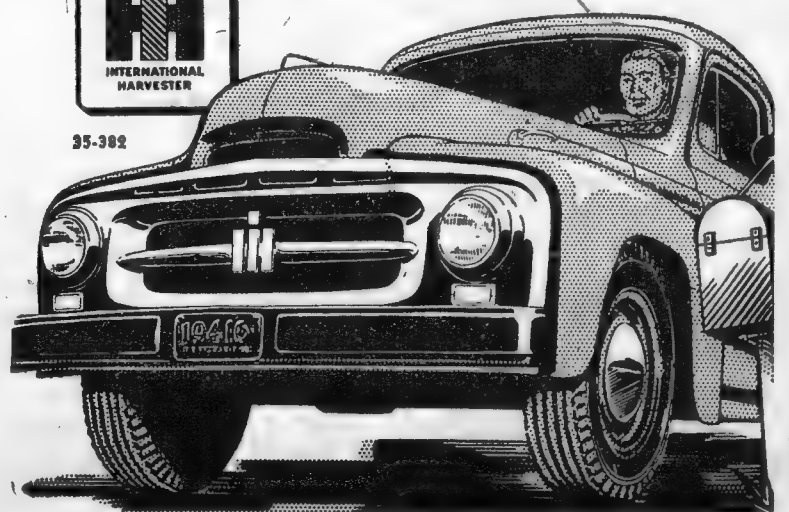
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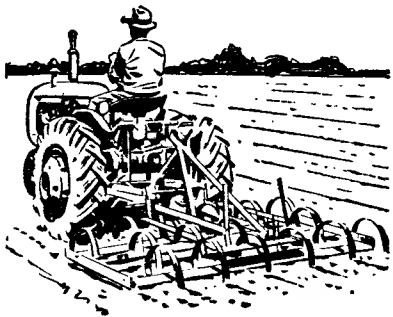
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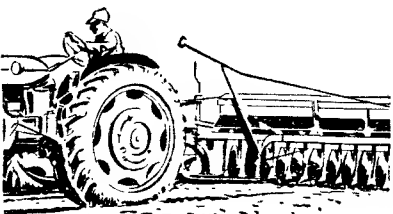


"So much to do and so little time" sums up the farmers' feelings in the Spring, when they are trying to get their seeding done. If tillage equipment is not in good working order, costly delays and mounting repair bills may result.



If your equipment is worn out, lack of cash need not keep you from getting the equipment you need. Imperial Bank recognizes the need for good equipment and have Farm Improvement Loans available for such purposes.

Be it for a plow, cultivator, disc or other tillage machinery which is needed, a loan is available from your Imperial Bank, for as much as two-thirds of the cost of the equipment. The repayment period varies with the size of the loan, with a simple interest at 5%. On such items as tractors, the repayment period is three years.



Why not drop in and see your local Imperial Bank Manager, and have a chat with him. He is interested in your financial requirements and would be glad to tell you how Farm Improvement Loans can help you solve them.

40-3



What about hybrid seed for your garden in 1954?

By H. F. HARP

EACH year sees an increased amount of hybrid seed planted in Prairie gardens. Hybrid vegetable varieties and to a lesser extent hybrid flower seed are being given wide publicity these days. Plants raised from this seed are said to give higher yields, mature earlier, are more tolerant of adverse weather conditions and more resistant to disease.

The layman may well ask how much of this is true and just what is hybrid seed. Tests have shown that some vegetable hybrids have outyielded standard sorts. Others have matured earlier and have more vigor to withstand bad weather and resist disease. Hybrid seed is produced at greatly increased cost by crossing two pure-line varieties which have desirable characters such as earliness, drought tolerance, good quality, perhaps dwarfness which gives tolerance to wind or any other good feature.

The progeny or descendants of this cross are known to inherit some of these qualities, but are not able to transmit them to their descendants so that the cross has to be made each year to produce the hybrid seed.

Seed from hybrid plants will not give the same results as the original cross. With standard varieties home-saved seed is practical especially when some selection has been made. The offspring from this seed will come true to the parent plant and give satisfactory results.

Costs Up

The increased cost of hybrid seed is not unwarranted as the cost of seed is usually the least important in any grown crop, but it remains necessary to give the same care or better. Plants like non-hybrid ones must have good soil, adequate moisture, good cultivation and protection from pests and disease. Plants raised from hybrid seed will be more vigorous in many instances and will repay proper care as will any plant.

The result of tests made at the Dominion Experimental Station, Morden, Manitoba, show that increased yields may be expected from hybrid seed when grown side by side with standard varieties.

At the present time hybrid seed of sweet corn, tomatoes, onions and cucumbers are available. Sweet corn may be obtained in several varieties. Popular sorts are Marcross, Spancross, Golden Cross, Sugar Prince. The last named was raised and introduced by Mr. Chas. Walkof specialist in vegetable breeding at the Morden Station.

Sugar Prince is an early, large-eared variety which is rapidly becoming a favorite for

canning and freezing. It is a first generation hybrid developed by crossing two select inbred lines. Seed of Sugar Prince should not be home-saved as the plants produced from home-saved seed will not be identical with the parents, but very much inferior. Yields of this variety have exceeded those of Marcross and Sugar Prince has a more pleasing color. The ears average seven to eight inches in length and have twelve to fourteen rows of kernels. In favorable seasons Sugar Prince has given yields of more than five tons per acre in southern Manitoba.

Hybrid Tomatoes

Monarch is a new hybrid bush-type tomato raised at Morden by crossing pure lines of Bounty and Early Chatham. It is an extremely vigorous plant with marked tolerance to drought so that good crops of Monarch are harvested under poor growing conditions. The plant habit is typically bush-type developing many branches at the base each of which terminate in a flower cluster setting three or four fruits. Fourteen pounds of ripe fruit have been harvested from a single plant of this variety when Bounty and Early Chatham which were grown under the same conditions yielded eight and nine pounds per plant respectively. The fruits of Monarch measure over three inches in diameter and weigh about five ounces.

Mustang is another hybrid bush-type tomato by crossing select lines of Bounty and Redskin. In recent tests this variety outyielded most of the standard commercial sorts. Fifteen pounds of ripe fruit is average under favorable growing conditions.

The plants show considerable resistance to leaf-spot disease and blight. Mustang is a popular hybrid tomato in south-central prairie regions.

Other new varieties which have developed from selections include Meteor Tomato, Tiny Tim peas, Morden Midget cabbage, Margold pepper.

Meteor tomato arose as an open pollinated seedling by back-crossing the variety Bon-ton to Earlinorth, formerly known as L 3700. Meteor grows to a height of only nine inches, but often spreads to thirty inches across. The fruits are smooth, bright red, and of excellent flavor. It is high in yield of ripe fruit and especially recommended for slicing.

Peas

The variety Tiny Tim was developed at Morden and introduced in 1950. It originated as a cross between Early Wisconsin Sweet and Engress. The

plant is dwarf, eight to ten inches is average height. The pods are two to three inches long containing about five peas in a pod. They are light green in color; measure up to 16% sugar content and have a pleasing flavor. In the exposed garden Tiny Tim is doubly valuable as it resists wind damage better than standard varieties.

Cabbage

One of the chief faults of cabbage is splitting of the mature heads which render them useless for storage. In any case most varieties are too large for an average family to consume at one meal, so there is usually a good deal of waste. Morden Midget cabbage was developed to supply the need for a small, non-splitting cabbage and fills the bill nicely. It is dwarf, early maturing, and remains in good condition long after the standard varieties have split. From an open ground sowing of this variety useful heads may be harvested in late July or plants from seed sown indoors may be set out in early June to give nice heads by mid-July. The heads weigh about a pound and a half each, just right for the small family table. The plants may be set much closer than standard varieties and will give a good account of themselves even in the dry seasons when often the old standby Copenhagen Market or Golden Acre will fail to head satisfactorily.

Peppers

While peppers may not be considered an important crop in Prairie gardens, the demand for an early-maturing variety, suitable for our short season, seems to be increasing each year. Morgold, a new introduction. May be depended on to produce ripe fruits freely. The plants are dwarf, compact, about a foot high and bear an average of eight fruits per plant. It is interesting to note that according to analyses made at the Food Processing Laboratory, Morden peppers contain six times more Vitamin C than tomatoes.

Hybrid Flower Seed

Brief mention is made of hybrid flower seed. Several single Petunias of hybrid origin have been on test at Morden for two or three seasons. Tango, Commanche, Pink Sensation are superb. The double Petunias are all of hybrid origin. The following varieties are recommended: Allegro, Sonata, Colossal Shades of Rose and Nocturne.

Marigolds and Snapdragons may also be obtained in hybrid form.

The wise gardener will continue to grow the old standby varieties, but at the same time invest a little money in a few of the new hybrid varieties for trial.

Seasonable Hints

While we are still in the dead of winter, the ever-lengthening

day gives promise of seed time to come. The actual seed-sowing date is still a long way off its true, but preparations can be made. Pots and pans used for seed sowing can be washed and soil mixtures prepared and sterilized by baking in a hot oven for a few hours.

More exciting is the study of new catalogues, and, while these beguiling books are a tremendous fascination to gardeners, and while their colorful illustrations may be somewhat exaggerated, and the claims made a little far fetched, the pleasure of thumbing through their pages cannot be denied.

Practical gardeners will be planning the vegetable garden on paper and avoiding some of last year's mistakes. Most frequent mistakes are over-crowding, sowing seed too deeply and also too thickly.

Crops such as corn require plenty of room. Small-town gardeners had best not bother with a corn patch. Vine crops and potatoes are often planted too closely. Carrots and beets can be spaced at fifteen inches, but eighteen-inch rows are better. Sowing vegetable seed too thickly is not only wasteful but makes a lot more work when the time comes to thin out the seedlings. Deep sowing is poor practice, too, as seed will rot or seedlings will damp off in periods of wet weather.

Information about vegetable culture may be had by writing the Dominion Experimental Station, Morden, requesting a copy of the Vegetable Bulletin. Water will be needed to flower them properly. Avoid keeping the plants in high temperatures or the display of bloom will be short-lived. The general collection of house plants had best be left undisturbed for a month or so when a complete overhauling should be given so that they will be thrifty during the summer months.

Gladioli, Dahlias, Tuberous Begonias and Gloxinias

The corns of Gladioli should have been cleaned of the old bulbs and loose skins by now, but where this job has not already been done, no time should be lost in completing the operation as soon as possible. A spoonful of 3% DDT per 100 bulbs will kill thrips on Gladioli corns.

Dahlias need careful inspection every few weeks. Shrivelling of the tubers will result from allowing the storage material to dry out too much. Wet conditions induce premature growth development, and if storage is too cool, then rotting will set in.

Tuberous Begonias and Gloxinias may be started into growth now if early blooms are wanted. If Tuberous Begonias are wanted for window box display, they had best not be started until the middle of March.

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CALGARY, ALBERTA

You can have birds galore if you put out feed

By ELIZABETH HUGGETT

DURING the late summer or early autumn we watch the birds gathering into flocks and say, with a sigh, "The birds are preparing to fly away," not realizing that the coming of winter does not mean the absence of birds; for among our winter visitors are to be found some of the most beautiful of our birds.

Many of our winter residents remain with us most or all of the year. Among them are the spectacular magpie, whose merits are questionable; that conspicuous cock-of-the-woods, the pileated woodpecker, with his vivid scarlet crest; the little downy woodpecker that is always at work and his larger and more striking cousin, the hairy woodpecker; the blue jay, that proud bird, which carries his crested head high, with the very air of dignity, which seems to imply, "I am monarch of all I survey; my right there is none to dispute"; the junco; the aggressive louse sparrow and the industrious little chickadee, that is never downhearted.

Some of our game birds also remain with us and come around our buildings in search of food. A ring-necked cock pheasant will sometimes pay us a daily visit, the winter sun gleaming on his gorgeous feathers.

A familiar sight is a bevy of Hungarian partridges, which instantly take flight at the least sound or movement. At dusk the ruffed grouse may be observed ascending to his roost in a near-by willow, which he deserts at dawn. The prairie chicken (sharp-tailed grouse) also visits us.

First to Come

Our first autumn immigrant is the dapper little tree sparrow and he is followed later by the fluffy little redpoll, the Bohemian Waxwing, with its wax-like feathers and graceful crest, the beautiful evening and pine grosbeaks, the adult male of the latter resplendent in his brilliant coat of rosy-red, and the snow bunting, which descends in flocks, like a snow storm, on our fields. All these and others help to cheer and brighten our cold winter days.

But, like our human friends, if we would have our feathered friends visit us, we must extend a welcome to them. There are many ways in which both city and country dwellers can attract birds.

When picking wild fruit, leave a few berries behind — waxwings and grosbeaks will enjoy them. A few sunflower heads and cosmos seeds left in the garden in the fall will please bluejays and smaller birds. Seeds left hanging on the Manitoba maple are the favorite dish

of the evening grosbeak and will sometimes keep a flock occupied for an hour or more at a time.

After reading that in fruit growing areas the evening grosbeak eats the seeds from rotten apples left on the trees, I experimented by hanging out apple cores. The seeds disappeared but I was unable to find out what took them. Grain and weed seeds spilled accidentally or otherwise, around a grain bin will attract game birds, also flocks of tree sparrows, juncos and redpolls. At dawn magpies will come to the ash pile for grit; they will be followed about an hour later by the blue jays. Scraps of suet and other meat and bones will attract blue jays, woodpeckers and chickadees.

It is a good plan to tie the scraps in a bag with holes in it and hang it in a tree. One winter, a piece of pork rind brought Mrs. Downy Woodpecker every morning for her breakfast and she occasionally brought her scarlet-capped husband to share in the feast.

If you are not favored with trees in your yard, food may be placed on the window sill or in trays attached to the sill—even a lid from a tin can will suffice as a tray. To the meat scraps may be added chopped corn and sunflower seeds for the seed-eating birds; and of course dried bread crumbs are always appreciated. Chickadees will enjoy a bit of popcorn for variety. If that discarded Christmas tree is still planted in the snow outside the door, a few scraps tied on to it will provide a feast for the birds.

Economically, too, our winter birds are well worth encouragement; for they destroy numerous insects and weed seeds every year! And — special note to farmers — even if you do feel like shooting a woodpecker when you catch him pecking a hole in your granary, please remember that he destroys insects that drill much more deeply into lumber and trees.



"Slower, Dear! There's a curve up ahead."

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Country Sedan

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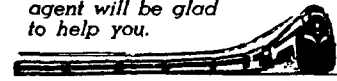
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CANADIAN NATIONAL

While there are many signs that make us optimistic about poultry profits for 1954, we don't pretend to be experts on forecasting the future. We know for certain that no matter how times are—good, bad or indifferent—chicks and poults, backed by the right kind of breeding and management always bring higher net returns. We are striving to produce the best chicks and turkey poults and give sound advice on the breeds or cross breeds to purchase for the maximum profit for eggs, broilers, roasters and meat. Write for catalogue and full details.

**TWEDDLE CHICK
HATCHERIES LIMITED**

FERGUS ONTARIO

Don't sneer at old-fashioned remedies. They still work!

By LEONARD H. COOPER

*Want to get rid of blood spotted eggs?
Read this article*

I OFTEN wonder, when I read of the new chemicals and drugs developed to combat disease in humans and animals and also the chemicals we are using to produce a greater speed of growth in animals and poultry, whether we are neglecting or forgetting some of the old remedies of our grandparents.

As a chemist, I suppose many will consider I should not think along these lines. I might be considered old fashioned. But our parents and their parents did things and used common remedies, which they found from long years of experience did produce certain results. As chemists I think it is our duty to investigate these old procedures and endeavour to isolate, with our improved knowledge of chemistry and laboratory equipment the active principles contained in the herbs and vegetables they used.

As a boy, and like all boys, I thoroughly enjoyed spending a part of my summer holidays with my grandparents. They lived in an old-fashioned house over two hundreds years old, standing in a large piece of land. The orchard had apples, pears, and plums in abundance. But the fruit tree that always had a great attraction for me was a fig. It was planted when the house was built and over the years had been trained over heavy wire to form an arbour. It covered a large area and the fruit had to be picked from a stepladder. Like all young lads the ripe fruit was a great temptation for me, and for a particularly large one, I felt a keen desire. Reaching for it I overbalanced, fell off the ladder and skinned my knees on the brick floor.

The intensively cultivated and highly manured soil of this part of England abounds in bacteria

which would soon set up a pus condition in a wound unless it is thoroughly cleansed. Grandmother's remedy was to scrape the mold from a piece of cheese, place over the wound and tie with a clean rag. Her favorite remark was "that will soon heal and won't fester".

In the past few years penicillin has been produced from a mold of the same family as appears on cheese.

The first football of the season generally left us with aching muscles and sore backs. We played association football (soccer) wearing the minimum of clothing. And in the winter, the only protection we had was a jersey and knickers. Even in the Isle of Wight the cold, wet winters can be very penetrating. Rain rarely stopped us playing a match. And, of course, in a few minutes we were thoroughly soaked.

Well I remember going to my grandparents one Sunday, after a particularly cold, wet day. I was holding my back, and, of course, grandfather wanted to know the reason. Which was football in a cold, driving rain. He told mother to cook some swede turnips for me and to be sure to drink the liquid in which they were cooked. He remarked "That will flush your system", and I never forgot it.

Keeping poultry, it has been my experience that the percentage of blood spots in eggs produced by hens approaching the moulting period increases very greatly. Discussing this with farmers, they have noticed the same trouble. These eggs, "rots" as they are called, are a complete loss, and generally they are all over 24 ounces to the dozen. In the early fall, large eggs are scarce and usually return a good price to the producer. How to overcome

this loss of high-priced eggs has always been a challenge to me.

The past summer I thought of grandfather's word about swede turnips flushing the human system. Why not flush the hen's system. After heavy laying, my theory was that she was getting run down and possibly building up wastes which were the cause of excessive formation of blood spots.

The first week of September we fed turnips at the rate of two pounds per 20 hens and fed them boiled—and also the liquor mixed with laying pellets, at noon. The results were rather startling. Blood spots were eliminated, and right up to the time we killed them we had no loss of eggs. Also we noted that the egg shell color remained better. It did not degenerate to a dirty white but remained a fairly good brown.

Over their egg-laying period the blood-spot-free eggs equalled 200.6 eggs per bird, and when we killed them their average live weight was 7 pounds and one-half ounce.

Egg yield per bird was low for us this year owing to a severe drop in production in April and May. This drop was caused by feeding a low-quality grain sold to us as a "good buy". Practically all the pullets developed a sour crop condition which gave us plenty of trouble to overcome.

The feeding of above amount of turnip did not affect the color of the yolk or cause any off flavor in the egg. I do not think there is any need to feed turnips continually. A few days each month should be sufficient.

It has been a practice to hang a turnip in the house for the birds to pick. But I find the boiled vegetable is far more efficient. Possibly the boiling creates a chemical change or the birds consume a greater quantity at one time when cooked. We know that cooking can cause a chemical change in plums. We have a tree that produces a wonderful flavored plum eaten raw, but when cooked is so astringent that it is uneatable.

The potato is another very valuable food which has not yet been fully investigated by the chemist.

Snow shovelling made easy

DOCTORS tell us that when we reach the age of forty we should be careful not to overstrain ourselves when clearing snow.

Scientific management is doing a job quicker, better and with less exertion than we usually do.

This is how we reduce the labor of snow moving: We use a grain scoop. When winter comes and before the first snowfall, the scoop is thoroughly cleaned, any rust is removed with steel wool dipped in coal oil. Then the tool is given a

good coat of floor wax, front and back is done. This is polished thoroughly. Apply another coat of wax as before and when dry, polish again.

Before using, the metal should be cooled down to outside temperature.

There is a scientific reason why wax is so beneficial in snow moving. The costs of wax fill the minute pores of the metal and combined with the polishing reduces friction of the snow, leaving the shovel. With a wax-cooled shovel, the snow rolls off and not a trace is left.

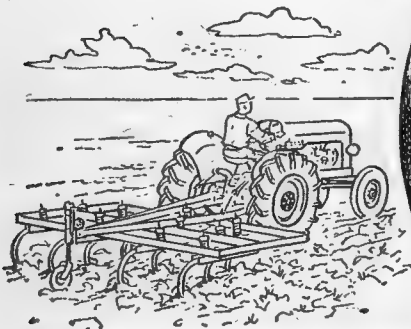
There is never any need to bang the shovel on the ground to clean the handle. At the end of the job the shovel is as free of snow as when you started. The coating of wax will last the season and protects the metal against rust. When the shovel is loaded with snow a flick of the wrist is all that is necessary to empty it.

For years I have done a lot of time study work. I can move 540 square feet of snow, 10 inches deep in half an hour. These 30 minutes including the time to roll a cigarette and the odd few seconds to take the kinks from the back. A younger and more robust man could better my time I am sure.

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FORDSON MAJOR DIESEL

One of these days you're going to decide it's costing too much to keep your old tractor working. When you do, and before you buy any tractor, be sure to see and compare the Fordson Major Diesel. You'll agree that never before has so much value been offered in a farm tractor.



LOWEST COST PER HORSEPOWER WITH FORDSON MAJOR

Ask your Ford Tractor Dealer for the official drawbar and belt horsepower tests of the Fordson Major Diesel. Then divide each of these figures into the cost price of the Major. This will give you the cost per unit of drawbar horsepower or

belt-horsepower. Now, do the same for any other similarly-equipped diesel tractor—you'll find the Fordson Major costs less per horsepower than any of them. The lowest-cost diesel tractor power you can buy is Fordson Major Diesel.

FORDSON MAJOR OFFERS MORE ADVANCED FEATURES

Here are a few of the many time-saving, money-making features that can be yours at the amazingly low Fordson Major price.

- "FEATHER-LIGHT" STEERING

Recirculatory "ball type"—27:1 ratio.

- 6-SPEED TRANSMISSION

6 forward and 2 reverse speeds.

- FULL 3-4 PLOW POWER

Ask your Ford Tractor Dealer to show you the Nebraska test reports just completed.

- 2 NEW OVERHEAD VALVE ENGINES

A full diesel with five-bearing crankshaft, wet cylinder sleeves, forced-feed lubrication.

- IMPROVED, BUILT-IN HYDRAULIC SYSTEM

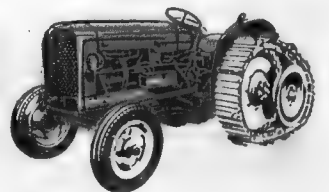
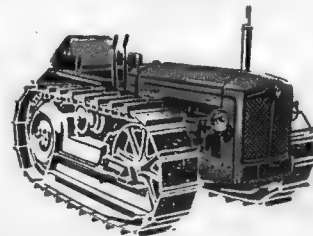
Lifts and lowers mounted equipment.

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AVAILABLE EVERYWHERE
IN CANADA



Commentary on Co-operation

□ □ □

The co-operative movement is a moral movement with ideals of self-help, mutual aid and trust. Character is the foundation on which the whole edifice of the whole movement is built.

Group Action Needed

A farm co-operative exemplifies the philosophy which recognizes that the dignity and importance of the individual are paramount and which believes that the rights of the individual can best be protected through group action.

Co-operatives Merit Support

Farm co-operatives, of which the Alberta Wheat Pool is an outstanding example, are set up by the farmers themselves for the sole purpose of providing economical service and savings thereby improving farm conditions. The successful operation of farm co-operatives depends mainly on loyal patronage.

An Educational Force

Co-operation is one of the greatest educational forces. It seeks to train its members to be good citizens and to play their part in social, economic and political life. The movement is an instrument in the hands of farm people whereby they can obtain for themselves a measure of social and economic strength.

An Example To The World

The Wheat Pool movement in western Canada is probably the greatest effort at self-help ever undertaken by a large group of farm people anywhere in the world. The success of the Wheat Pool movement is due to its close adherence to true co-operative principles, its energetic efforts on behalf of agriculture and the loyal support of the membership.

Sets The Standard

The welfare of every grain producer in Alberta is directly affected by the operations of Alberta Pool Elevators. The reason is that Pool Elevators set the standard of elevator practice and provides the assurance of fair and equitable treatment for farmers who market their grain. Farm people can patronize Pool Elevators with a feeling of confidence that they will obtain fair treatment.

ALBERTA WHEAT POOL

Alberta Pool Elevators for
Alberta Farmers."

Horn hat-racks and memories of the American Buffalo

By KERRY WOOD

A buffalo horn hatrack was given to me the other day, a pair of curved, pointed horns nicely mounted on a wooden shield and with the additional attraction of a polished buffalo hoof displayed under the horns. Fifty years ago such hatracks were commonplace in Western Canada. Many of them were fashioned by ranchers and cowboys from horns they had personally gathered on the range. Today, a buffalo horn hatrack is something of a rarity, and even the once plentiful buffalo skulls are fast weathering away to oblivion.

It is amazing to realize that only seventy-five years ago there were five million bison roaming the wild ranges. By 1888, their numbers had shrunk to a pitiful 1,300, while the total bison population on the North American continent reached its lowest ebb just before the turn of the century. Now, happily, the animals can be counted by the thousands again, their species protected in various wildlife parks and private preserves scattered across the continent.

We read newspaper accounts of the annual kill of surplus bulls taking place in the remote Wood Buffalo Park of the north, and note with interest that we may be able to buy a roast of buffalo meat for 55c per pound.

Big Herd

The buffalo will never again blacken the prairies as in the old days, of course. As recently as 1871, Colonel Dodge records that he rode for 25 miles through a continuous herd of buffalo on the plains of Arkansas. Dr. W. T. Hornaday, whose fine treatise on the American Bison has become the authoritative book on the animal, estimates that during primitive times the wild cattle numbered between fifty and sixty million animals in all.

Our Canadian West provided a home range for only the northern remnants of the vast herds. Even so, there were literally millions of the animals in Canada during early times, and no doubt our animals survived the extermination period longer than American herds because of our sparser human settlement. Indeed, a few score buffalo still living in a wild state were discovered in what is now Wood Buffalo Park in far northern Alberta, and these untamed survivors formed the nucleus of the buffalo herds now stocking that vast wilderness preserve.

It makes interesting speculation, trying to discover when the last wild herds of buffalo ranging on the farming part of Western Canada were hunted down and slaughtered. Each

province has its own claimants for this dubious honor. In Alberta, one record has it that a small herd was located on the banks of the Red Deer River near the town of Three Hills, and was killed for food by Cree Indians in the year 1889.

A later date was reported by a southern Alberta rancher, claiming he shot an elderly cow buffalo near the Old Man River back in 1891. There is one other very surprising date. Peter Wesley, a reliable and beloved Indian, late chief of the Stoney tribe of the Kootenay Plains region alongside the mountains part of the North Saskatchewan River, is reputed to have killed a very old bull buffalo on the slopes of the Coliseum Mountain near what is now the coal-mining town of Nordegg, the kill made in the year 1907!

A Hard Life

What brought about the extermination of the wild herds? Settlement mostly, though greedy hide and tongue hunters played their ignominious part. So did the flooding rivers from the Peace in the north to the Mississippi in the south. Dr. Hornaday writes of the 20,000 miles of North American rivers the vast herds had to ford several times a year; during weak ice conditions of spring and autumn, such crossing could be disastrous.

That pioneer western missionary, the Reverend John MacDougall, tells of seeing hundreds of buffalo drowned in the swift waters of the Bow River when newly formed ice in the fall of the year broke under the massed weight of the animals seeking to cross. He adds that Indians of the region were glad to dine on the carcasses of the drowned buffalo during the winter. An early Canadian fur trader, Alexander Henry in his *Journal* for May 2nd, 1807, told of travelling all day along a prairie river and seeing thousands of dead buffalo that had drowned while trying to ford the treacherous stream.

Wolves and Bears

The animals had other enemies. Packs of wolves roamed the ranges, killing and eating isolated buffalo and preying on enfeebled old or orphaned young animals. Grizzly bears and black bears were abundant wherever buffalo foraged during presettlement times, while cougars ranged as far east as Ontario and continually sought buffalo calves for food. The authorities believe now that even greater than the regular depredations of Indian and animal hunters were the death tolls taken of the vast herds by winter blizzards, summer drought, and the destructive

prairie fires that raged across the west. During the end of the buffalo's free range period, white hunters harried the herds continually in quest of hides; noted hunters were reported to have killed 100 animals per day per man, and the skinning season lasted for several months every year.

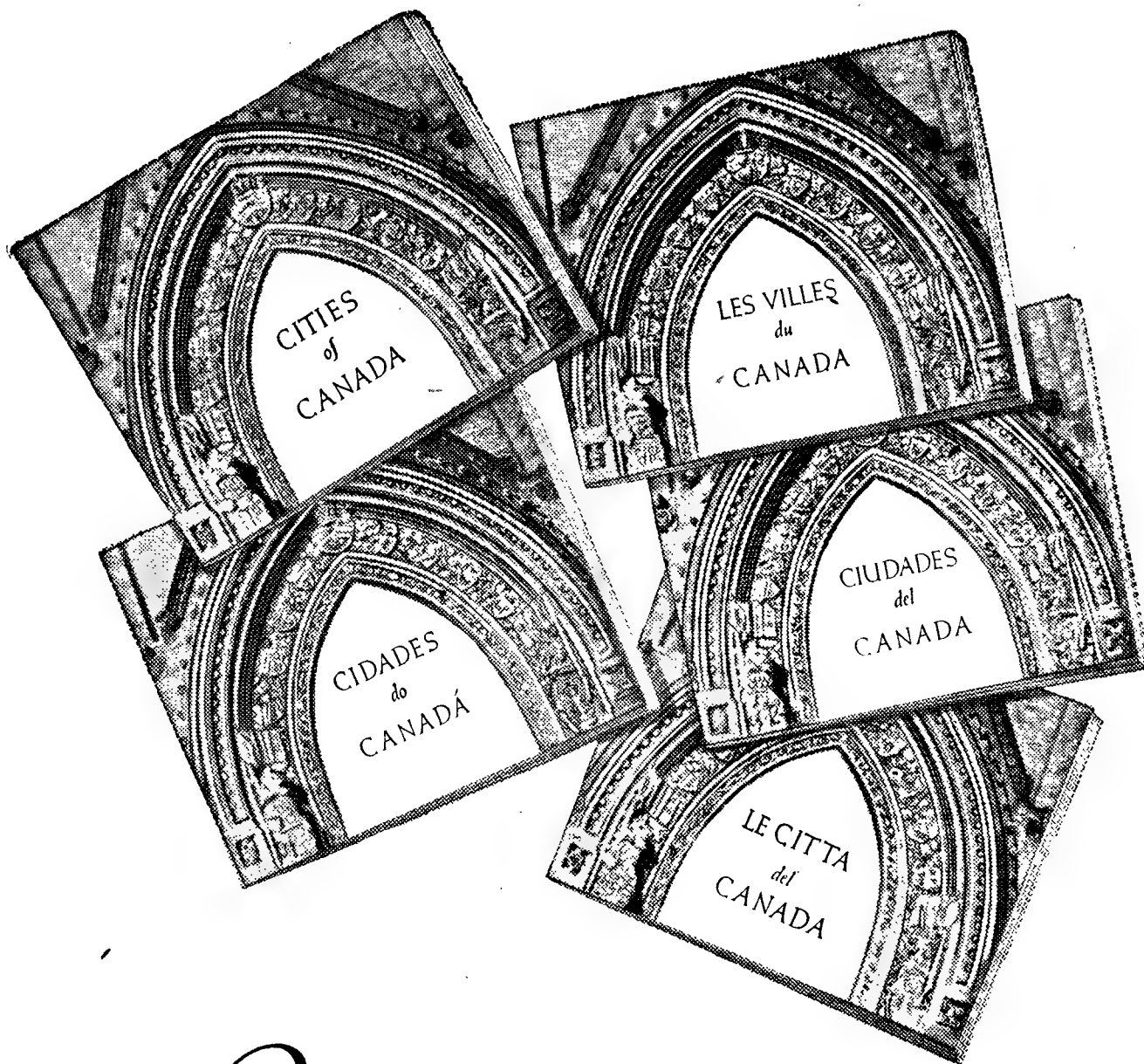
To Indians of the plains region, the buffalo was a source of food, clothing, and skin-tent shelter; the redmen made tools and weapons from buffalo bones, while squaws and children gathered the animals' dried droppings for cooking fuel and to keep the teepees warm. Indians were wasteful of buffalo at times, sometimes stampeding a herd over high cliffs and destroying far more animals than they could possibly use. We find the remains of these mass slaughters in various parts of the west today. There is a buffalo bone-yard in the Trochu district of Central Alberta, while another larger deposit of bones is located near the Mouth of the Highwood River about thirty miles southeast of Calgary.

Now the vast herds have gone, and so long as man is able to farm the soils of the prairie provinces, the free roaming bison would not be welcomed back despite our present sympathy for the great, shaggy beasts who were symbolic of the primitive west. We always think of the buffalo as being a typical New World animal. But Mr. Hornaday, who delved very carefully into the earliest history of the bison, has facts to prove that the buffalo is really a European animal. The species originated somewhere in the territory now called Germany, and the bison is a close relative of the Giant Aurochs or Wild Ox of Europe which was in such demand during Roman times as an animal antagonist of gladiators and Christian martyrs.

Long before Roman times, however, the bison herds wandered eastward across Russia and the wide plains of Siberia to reach the land-bridge once connecting Asia with Alaska. The buffalo crossed that bridge and then spread down across the fertile fields of the New World to make it their final home range.

One more oddity. Cortez, the cruel Spanish soldier who conquered Mexico, is believed to have been the first white man to sight a bison on the North American continent. The animal he saw was imprisoned in a cage! Cortez saw the buffalo in the wild animal zoo maintained by Montezuma, King of the Mexican Indians. The time: twenty-seven years after Columbus discovered America in 1492!

Feed your cows strong-flavored feeds like silage and potatoes after milking instead of before, to prevent milk from taking on these bad flavors, says NDAC.



Passports TO FRIENDSHIP

CREATING goodwill for Canada wherever it goes, the Seagram Collection of Paintings of Canadian Cities has already been seen by over 150,000 people in San Juan, Havana, Mexico City, Caracas, Buenos Aires, Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo . . . and in Rome, Paris, London and Geneva. Still ahead are The Hague, Madrid and Stockholm—and a visit to our Armed Forces in West Germany to give Canadian servicemen stationed in this theatre a graphic glimpse of home.

These 52 original portraits of 22 Canadian cities especially painted for The House of Seagram by Canada's distinguished artists, dramatically present the metropolitan aspect of this great country of ours . . . building a 30,000-mile path of friendliness and goodwill . . . bringing to the peoples of

other lands an appreciation of the cities our people have built, and a realization of our vitality and our future.

Accompanying the Seagram Collection on its year-long International Tour are 48-page full-colour booklets which are available to all who visit this unique exhibition of Canadian paintings.

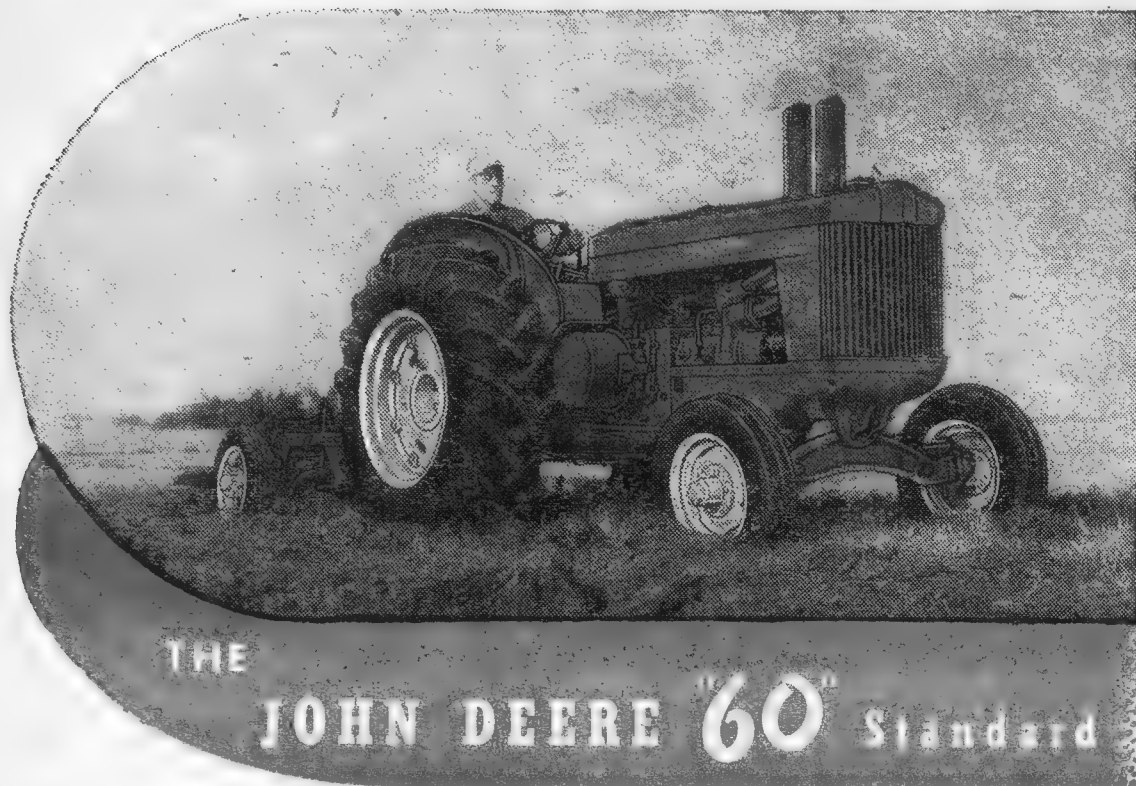
These "Passports to Friendship" are printed in 5 languages. They contain colour reproductions of the paintings of the 22 Canadian cities with a significant commentary on each city by B. K. Sandwell, noted Canadian author. All across Latin America and Europe thousands of people have carried home these attractive records of Canada's skyline and, through them, have become more fully informed about this great and vital land — Canada.



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with Every Modern Feature



GET acquainted with the John Deere "60" Standard, the all-new tractor that's tailor-made for better work, bigger profits on medium-sized grain farms.

Here's new power that handles three- and four-bottom plows, 12- and 16-foot Surflex Tillers, big-capacity disk harrows and similar equipment in practically any condition . . . more economical power that saves money, boosts profits on every job. In addition, there's every modern feature, "live"

hydraulic Powr-Trol . . . "live" power shaft . . . new, easier steering, greater operator comfort and convenience and many others for faster, easier work.

Your John Deere dealer is eager to have you learn the full story on the "60" Standard. Stop at his store soon. Get the facts. Arrange for a field demonstration where you can see for yourself how this brilliant new tractor will save time and labor, help build bigger grain profits.

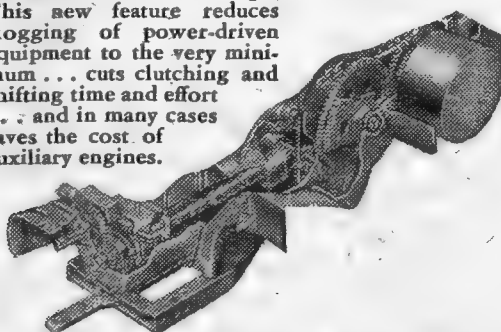
NEW Power and Economy . . .

are yours, thanks to this Duplex or "double-barrelled" carburetor which meters fuel in identical amounts to each cylinder at any throttle setting from idle to full load. Other advanced engine features include Cyclonic Fuel Intake and All-Weather Manifold.



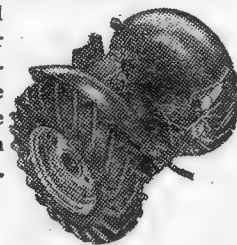
NEW Convenience . . .

is really yours on the "60" Standard with such features as the new "live" power shaft shown here. This new feature reduces clogging of power-driven equipment to the very minimum . . . cuts clutching and shifting time and effort . . . and in many cases saves the cost of auxiliary engines.



NEW Comfort . . .

with a fully-adjustable, deep-cushion seat, large platform, no-stretch control arrangement and many other features including new larger fenders that cover more of the rear tires and provide better operator protection and much cleaner operation.



NEW Clearance . . .

at every point under the tractor through use of a new rugged, arched front axle and larger diameter rear tires. In addition to this new clearance that means better work on every job, the front wheel knuckles on the "60" Standard have been redesigned and angled slightly (note illustration) to provide easier-than-ever steering.



Saving Seed

ARE we wasting good seed? There is a suggestion that wheat in central Alberta might be sown at somewhat lower rates than usual.

A. D. McFadden, Cerealist at the Lacombe Experimental Station, has been studying rates of spring wheat seeding and their effect on yield. Saunders and Thatcher were two of the varieties used. They were sown at rates varying from less than 1/2 bushel to almost 2 bushels per acre. The crops from the lighter sowings took longer to mature, were more resistant to lodging and were generally taller than when heavier rates were used.

Important, however, is the seed-saving angle indicated. The tests were started in 1949 and are continuing. While results are not yet conclusive, the trend appears quite marked and worth noting at this stage.

Trials over the four years 1949-52 show most satisfactory returns from Saunders sown at 50 lbs. and Thatcher at 46 lbs. per acre. Mr. McFadden advises. The higher seeding rate for Saunders is related to its somewhat larger kernel.

Here is the four-year average of seeding rates (lb.) and yields in bushels per acre (bu.) of these two varieties. Saunders, 24 lbs., 37 bu.; 50 lbs., 49 bu.; 74 lbs., 45.7 bu.; 99 lbs., 47 bu.; Thatcher, 23 lbs., 37.8 bu.; 46 lbs., 49 bu.; 69 lbs., 50.3 bu.; 92 lbs., 47.7 bu.

Summerfallow was used for these tests, and hand weeding prevented competition from weeds. For best results from reduced rate of seeding, weed-free seed of high germination is required. Clean land is desirable too, and the saving on seed might well be considered partial return of the cost of chemical or other weed control.

Weed Ensilage for live stock

WEEEDS have been a problem, are a problem, and will be a problem in our crops. Mr. T. P. Cyr, of the Experiment Substation at Pincher Creek, is attacking this problem in a unique manner.

As on many farms, the wild oat population has been increasing on the Pincher Creek Substation, especially in recent moist years. During the past two summers, areas in the cereal crops heavily infested with wild oats and other weeds have been swathed while the wild oats were still green and immature. Immediately after cutting, the swaths were picked up, chopped with a forage harvester, and hauled into a pit silo.

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Quality Farm Equipment Since 1837



Prior to building the pit silo, Mr. Cyr had found that cutting wild oat-infested cereals for green feed tended to return a fair quantity of viable wild oat seeds to the land. By cutting the wild oats early and ensiling immediately, the possibility of returning such viable seed to the land is eliminated. Early cutting, such as this, has provided good quality ensilage with the required 65 to 75 per cent moisture content at time of ensiling. At present, Mr. Cyr has forty-eight head of calves self-feeding on this type of palatable ensilage.

Farmers interested in handling their wild oat problem in this way should consult with their District Agriculturist, or with members of the Experimental Station staff, on the subject of ensiling weeds for livestock.

Trading Futures

THE Winnipeg Free Press says that every royal commission in Canada which has investigated futures trading in grain has favored that system. The last to do so was the Turgeon commission which reported in the spring of 1938.

It is true that the Turgeon commission made such a recommendation with some reservations. But the big world wheat crop in 1938 drove down prices to such levels that grain producers were threatened with bankruptcy. The Canadian government contemplated dropping the Wheat Board price for 1 Northern at the terminal to 60 cents a bushel. This caused such alarm in Canada that John Bracken, then premier of Manitoba, called a meeting of representatives from almost every business and farm organization in western Canada to discuss the seriousness of the situation and make recommendations. Pressure was brought to bear upon the government and the Wheat Board price was fixed at 80 cents a bushel.

In the 1938 calendar year the high price for wheat was \$1.54 and the low price was 57 cents. The recommendation of the Turgeon commission given in the spring of 1938 was forgotten. The reason thereof is made plain in the following table giving the high and low price of wheat on the open market for each month of the 1938 calendar year:

1938	High — per bus. —	Low
January	\$1.54	\$1.45
February	1.49	1.42
March	1.53	1.33
April	1.49	1.25
May	1.20	1.07
June	1.23	1.04
July	1.04	.93
August .....	.88	.64
September .....	.70	.58
October .....	.64	.59
November .....	.61	.57
December .....	.62	.59

BIG POWER that Shortens Work Days, Increases Pay Days on Large Farms

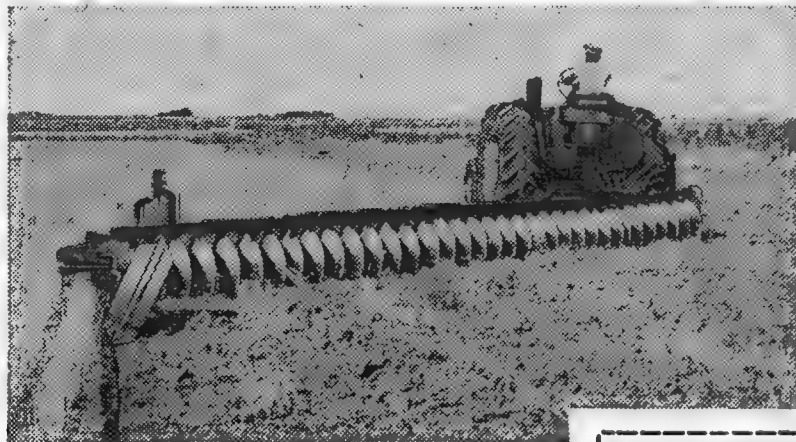


PUT your large-acreage grain farm on a new profit basis—do more in less time . . . save more on every job—with a John Deere Model "R" Diesel Tractor.

Here's *Big Power* that really shortens work days—husky, rugged, *two-cylinder* power for handling four- and five-bottom plows, 20-foot Surflex Tillers, tandem hookups of grain drills, rod weeder and similar big-capacity equipment at peak efficiency in practically every condition. The Model "R" has five modern job-gear speeds to match your every large-acreage requirement . . . far better traction that cuts dollar-wasting wheel slippage to the minimum . . . and a host of unequalled features such as "live" hydraulic Powr-Trol, automotive-type steering and many others that help you do more, easier, every minute you're in the field.

Here's *Big Economy*, too—double savings that build bigger profits. Not only does the Model "R" save you money through the lower day-to-day operating costs of its highly efficient *Diesel* engine, but also through the extra years of dependable, low-cost, trouble-free service that results from simpler, stronger, John Deere *two-cylinder* design. On farms throughout the country, owners report the Model "R" saving up to several hundred dollars a year in fuel costs alone and operating season after season at rock-bottom maintenance costs.

Call on your John Deere dealer, get complete details. Arrange for a demonstration and see for yourself how the *Big Power* and *Big Economy* of the Model "R" Diesel will shorten work days, increase pay days on your large-acreage farm.



Breaking land, seeding, field-cultivating, combining—whatever the job on large grain farms—the John Deere Model "R" Diesel has just what you need for better, faster work and bigger profit. With an outfit such as shown at the left—Model "R" with 20-foot Surflex Tiller—many Canadian grain farmers report working almost ten acres an hour with an average fuel consumption of less than 1-1/2 gallons per hour.

SAVE MORE . . . Start in '54—
Choose a JOHN DEERE

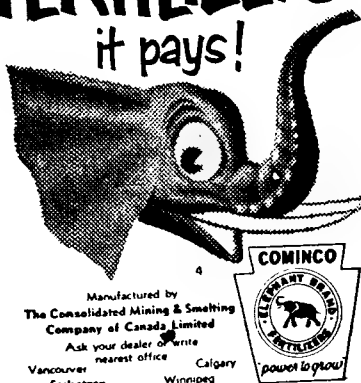


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R.O.P. Sired **CHICKS**

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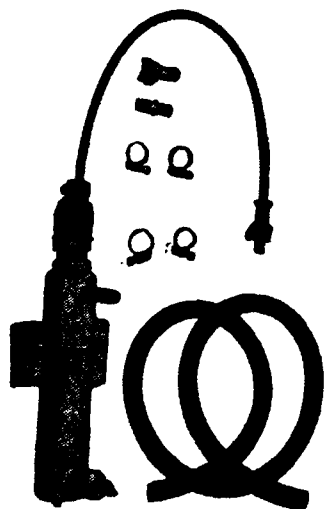
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The Lockwood Story— How good farming paid off

By JOSEPH PAUL

ONCE upon a time some very weedy land was made into a good farm. If the change had taken place during good seasons with high prices, the story would not be worth tellings. But the farm at Lockwood was taken over in 1930 with drought, soil drifting, and depression prices ahead. Add to that the fact that it was to be operated under remote control of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, with expert advice from a professor of the University who left the province within a year, and you have a combination of circumstances which should ensure the failure of any project.

In spite of adversity the story of the Lockwood farm is a story of success. Strangely the only record has been the brief and formal entries in the reports of the Department each year from 1931 to 1946. The late Mr. S. H. Vigor, Field Crops Commissioner for Saskatchewan at the time, outlined the project in the 1931 report in this fashion:

"As a further step towards obtaining information on weed control methods, cropping systems and rotations, a section and a half of land was procured in the Lockwood district. This land was heavily infested with many kinds of weeds and was taken over with a view to putting it on a production basis."

Additional bits of information in later reports help to complete the picture; for example in the 1932 report. "This farm . . . was badly infested with bad noxious weeds, including perennial sow thistle, Canada thistle, couch grass, wild oats, besides a number of others such as mustards, blue bur, stinkweed, etc. The problem was rendered more difficult by reason of acute soil drifting, as the soil is sandy and is extremely liable to drift."

The report indicates the Lockwood farm got off to a good start in 1932. "During the year a herd of pure-bred Short-horn cattle was added and live-stock on the farm now includes 8 horses, 20 cattle, 7 swine, 90 poultry. The crop production on the farm was very satisfactory as compared with that of other farm properties in the district which grew little or no crop. Soil drifting was also overcome to a gratifying extent. Methods of controlling Canada thistle, perennial sow thistle and wild oats are under trial and it is expected definite information will be available within a short time."

Good Progress

Although the "definite information" never seemed to materialize, the Lockwood farm was heading into 15 years of profitable production. Some

idea of methods and their success can be gained by such remarks as these from the 1933 report: "Wild oats, perennial sow thistle and Canada thistle are being eliminated and soil drifting has been practically stopped through a careful selection of cropping methods and tillage practices . . . In attacking soil drifting and weed control such crops as fall rye, sweet clover and barley have been used to advantage."

The 1934 report states: "Only ordinary farm equipment and correct tillage practices have been employed in connection with a suitable cropping system . . . As the perennial and annual weeds are brought under control the productivity of the farm is gradually increasing. Total destruction of newly sown crop by soil drifting was 48.5% of the total acreage in 1930, but only 8.4% in 1933 with strong spring winds being quite as prevalent in the latter year as in the former."

In 1935 Mr. M. M. Kirk resigned from the management of the farm. Reports for the next 10 years are routine statements of production, revenue and assets. Although the project seemed to take a lesser place in the interest of the Department, the level of production was well maintained. Sales of produce were small in 1931 (the first crop under the experimental period). 3,100 bushels of grain and 6,000 lbs. of sweet clover seed was produced, but the live stock had not commenced to yield returns. Thus the first complete season of operation gave a revenue of \$572.59 which was increased many-fold during the next two years despite the continuation of drought and depression which is so vivid in the memory of Saskatchewan's senior farmers.

It is interesting to compare the amounts recorded as revenue each year from the Lockwood farm, and to check these figures against the average wheat yield in crop district No. 6, and prices for cattle and wheat. These figures tell their own emphatic story in the following table:

Year.	Revenue from Lockwood farm produce.	Wheat yield Crop District No. 6 (bus./ac.)	No. 1 wheat at Ft. William, Dec. average	Good steers at Winnipeg, average for year
1931.....	\$ 472	8.4	58 ³ / ₈	5.33
1932.....	1,701	11.6	42 ³ / ₈	4.82
1933.....	2,463	5.6	60 ¹ / ₄	3.87
1934.....	3,966	8.2	79 ¹ / ₈	4.40
1935.....	4,301	13.8	84 ⁵ / ₈	5.45
1936.....	5,276	9.8	120 ¹ / ₄	4.49
1937.....	2,168	1.2	137 ³ / ₈	6.12
1938.....	2,708	9.3	60 ⁵ / ₈	5.25
1939.....	4,254	20.8	82 ¹ / ₂	6.18
1940.....	3,542	15.0	73 ³ / ₈	7.02
1941.....	3,990	7.9	74 ³ / ₈	8.22
1942.....	3,828	25.4	90 ³ / ₈	9.72
1943.....	4,543	12.9	125	11.10
1944.....	7,947	21.5	125	11.15
1945.....	16,784	(includes receipts from dispersal sale of stock and equipment)		

No Magic

And so you see there is no magic about the Lockwood story — nothing new was discovered — nothing exciting to announce; just the age-old story of weeds trying to protect the land until good farming takes a hand. So the story lies buried in the yellowing pages of Departmental reports, and the panorama of official weed control rolls on and on.

The heros who drove forth (at public expense) forty years ago to "eradicate" tumbling mustard, wild oats, and Canada thistle, were relieved fifteen years later by the Knights who charged (on their trusty expense accounts) to "banish" sow thistle and stinkweed.

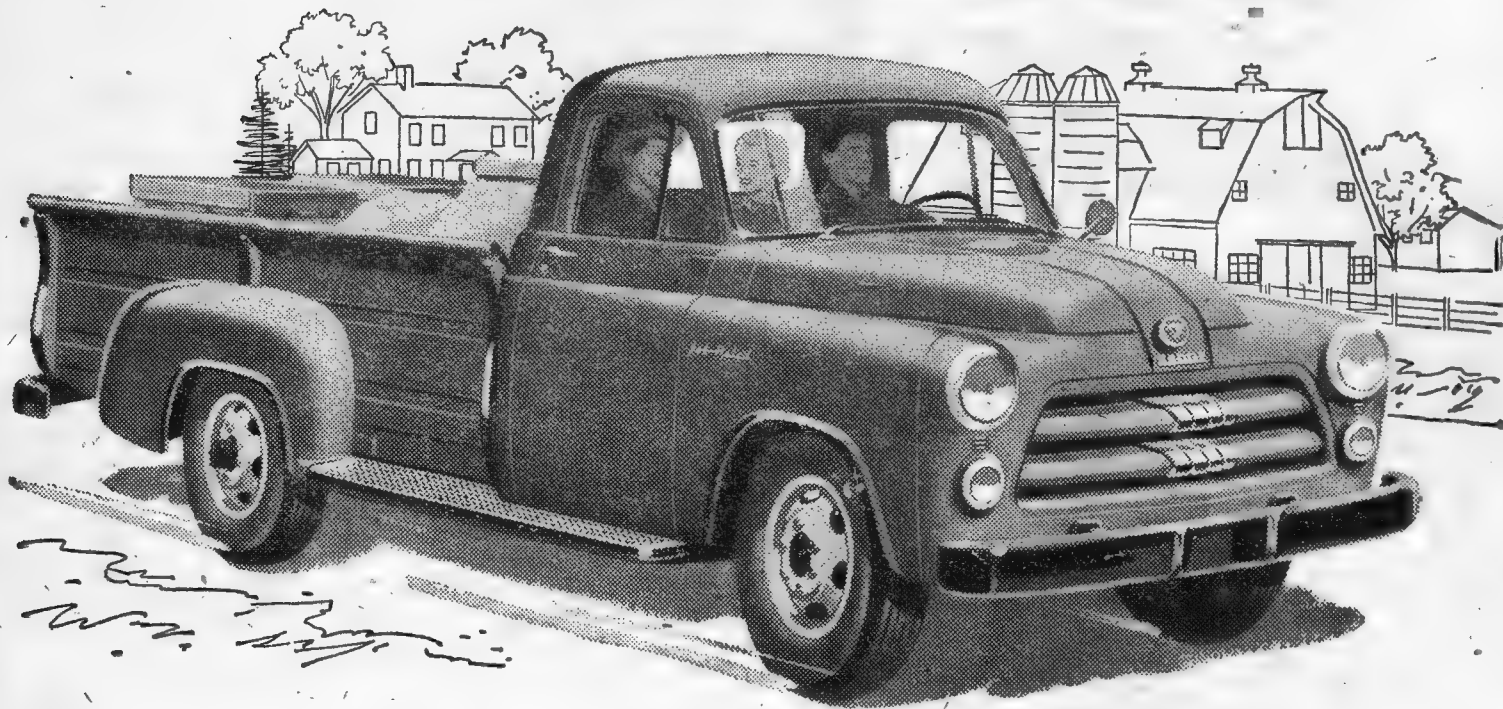
How much has been spent to keep sow thistle out of the drought area; and to keep Russian thistle out of the black soil zone? How much has been spent to eradicate weeds which have finally been accepted as part of our normal compliment of wild growth? How much has been spent to destroy weeds which could have been used to good advantage as live stock feed? How much is being spent to repeat the same old comedy of errors over and over by changing the cast of characters every 15 years?

In an effort to end this nonsense the Lockwood experiment was started as a direct result of a decision at the Regina Weed Conference of 1929, that "it is essential that experimental areas be established on weed-infested lands on representative soil types." Hence one experimental area was established on one soil type which was not representative.

Regardless of the odds against it, this turned out to be the cheapest in weed control in the records of the prairie provinces. But the Lockwood farm is forgotten; because the story of its success is a closed chapter to anyone who does not appreciate the mysteries which lie behind the words "good farming."

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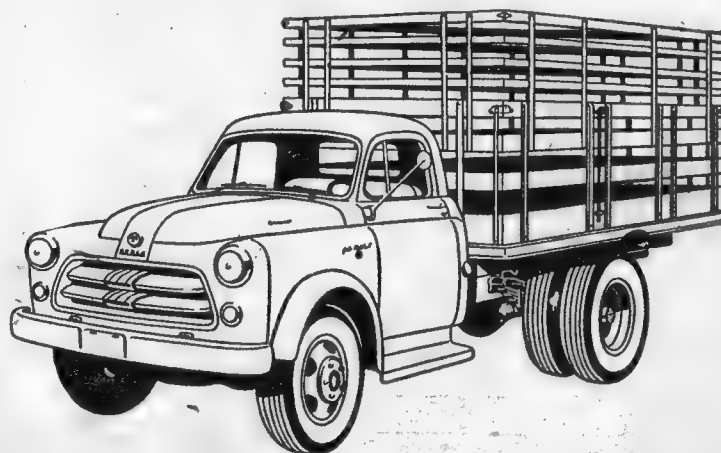
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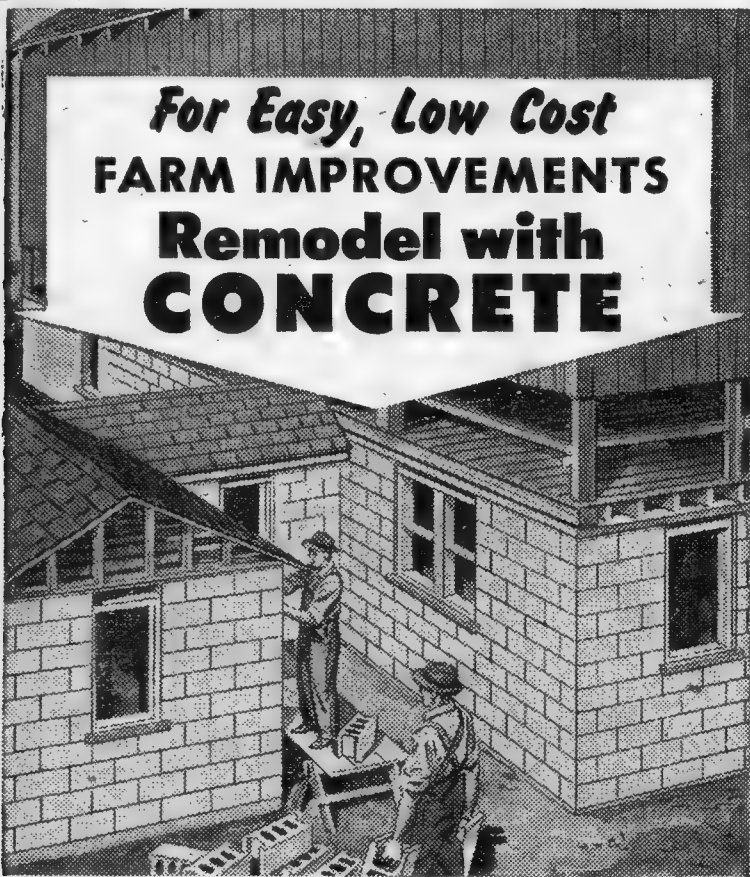
Farmers' rights

To the Editor:

Your article, "The People and the Government", sure hit the nail on the head, for, in my opinion no Britisher ever had his neck wrung like the farmer of the west are having theirs, no judge sits on the right of entry arbitration board; in fact, their methods are no better than the division of a privateer's loot

from the high seas.

Not only that, but these ultra-Christian imposters will use this very oil revenue to subsidize the cities just before elections to be sure of a return to power.



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know they are the only American natives, all the remainder are foreigners; in any case, the French Canadians were settled in Canada long before the Britons.

And to mention just another case of democracy as it should be: Last spring, against the wishes of the majority of the dairy farmers the minister of agriculture decontrolled price of the milk for the consumer. The Socreds are just beginners in B.C., but they made big advances in anti-democratic politics.

Dyonis Moeros.

Smithers, B.C.

Water Conservation

To the Editor:

For long years, well over a quarter of a century, I have urged adequate protection and conservation for the head waters of our eastward flowing streams and rivers. I have pleaded for the preservation of the forest and vegetation cover of the eastern slopes of the Rockies.

For an equal period I have advocated irrigation development as a long-range, overall plan instead of on a regional competitive basis. Likewise I have stood for scientific development of our hydro on a long range, well planned scheme with the objective of the most complete service to the people under the principles of public ownership.

We have seen the Tennessee Valley in the United States where under the guidance of the great idealists, Roosevelt and Lilienthal, a great river has been conserved and made to transform a poverty stricken land and people into an area of happy and prosperous homes under and by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

It is now within one hour of midnight when we must do something similar on these Canadian plains. Three provincial governments, one federal government and a number of powerful private corporations, there are far too many, at times with conflicting viewpoints, to make the best use of these great natural resources which should be conserved, developed, operated and administered in the interests of the people who live and have their being on these great rolling plains.

I suggest we urge our three provincial governments and our federal government to meet together and set up a Great Plains Water Authority with complete control and ownership of the water and development of all our rivers and streams originating on and from the eastern slopes of the Rockies. Such Board to be responsible to the Parliament of Canada and financed by federal authority and to have, we presume, a majority federal representation on which the three provincial governments and organized agriculture should have representation. All this to be the end that those streams and rivers will continue to flow usefully to the sea in doing so bring life-giving water to parched grains and grasses, quench the thirst of the grazing herds and in addition bring light and power to the dark homes of the prairie. All this on the basis of need and the service of humanity and not on the hope of the accumulation of profits. Some day it will have to be done. Why not now?

Jack Sutherland.

The seismographs are lowering our water level by breaking the rocks and letting the water run to lower levels, and in some cases bulldozing down our fences, and I know of cases in which they have not been compensated.

And every religious convert to a certain gibberish is a sure vote for Social Credit.

And us people that pioneered the country and built the roads, the schools and the homes, and fought in the front line in France are delegated to a lower rung than the Indian.

Christianity, ba!

F. F. Cameron.

Rocky Rapids, Alta.

Keep them SHORT!

OUR readers should realize that the shorter the letters they write to the editor, the better are the chances of their being published. Only on rare occasions can we find space for any letter that runs beyond 300 words. We prefer them to be no more than 200 words. Letters of more than 300 words will be returned as we cannot undertake to reduce them to manageable size.

The Editor.

We Are All Foreigners

To the Editor:

May I comment on the letter of Mr. A. W. Johnson, Salmon Arm, B.C.

First I want to make it clear that I am not a partyman, never was one, and never will be one.

It seems that poor B.C. fell from the frying pan into the fire. Not long ago, I read in the New Liberty that the Socred aspire on dictatorship of Canada. That was promptly denied by the leaders. But what I missed was a denial of the quotations of the speeches made by some prominent members of the Socred party which were in the article above mentioned. To me that seems to be the principal point, not the private quarrel between the correspondent of the New Liberty and Socred leaders. As we know the finance minister of B.C. was defeated in June and now for the second time again, but he still occupies the post and as they say will occupy it in the future. That smells really of dictatorship of the purest quality.

Does Mr. Johnson want an Indian government? As far as I

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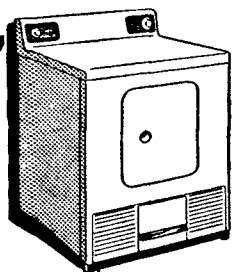
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B. C. spud growers face quality crisis

By TOM LEACH

BRITISH COLUMBIA plants only 20% as many acres in potatoes as Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba combined, but they harvest on the average 40% as many pounds. According to B.C. growers they also shoulder the biggest share of marketing problems.

To prove their contention they point to the huge importations of Idaho, Washington and California potatoes onto their home market. They had a government investigation into the operations of the Coast Vegetable Marketing Board and they had a referendum to determine whether the growers wished to continue to sell their potatoes through the Board or revert to the former method where every farmer was on his own to sell his crop.

They voted overwhelmingly in favor of Board marketing and then proceeded to dump into the hands of the Board one of the largest crops on record. That happened right at the same time U.S. growers started to harvest a record crop and were turning a hungry eye on the Canadian market.

In their effort to sell the huge crop the growers in the States packed an exceptionally good grade. It was better than standards required. B.C. growers were not accustomed to that kind of competition. They were lulled into the belief that grading loosely according to Canadian standards gave them protection from outside competition on an equal price basis.

Wrong Idea

That idea was wrong, but a series of jolts upset more than ideas on marketing. First it was California earlies taking the cream of the market. Before that was overcome the California second-early crop was being displayed prominently on grocery store counters, and when the second-early crop of White Rose were being dug from Fraser Valley soils, the late crops were being imported from all parts of the States.

Looking for a quick solution to this influx of potatoes from the south a few farmers grasped at the fact that they paid no tariff. The reasoning was that if the U.S. growers were forced to pay a tariff on the potatoes they shipped to B.C. they would also be forced to charge a higher price which would allow B.C. grown potatoes an opportunity to undersell the imported potatoes.

They overlooked the fact that the price of B.C. grown potatoes was already lower than the potatoes imported from the States of Washington and California. What seemed to be troubling the sale of B.C. pota-

atoes was not price but quality.

That was the second point made in the report issued by the government following the investigation of the marketing of potatoes. They stated in January, 1953, that a "continuous policy aimed at improving the quality of produce handled by this Board" was one of the three most essential needs to improve market conditions.

Little was accomplished during the months of 1953 to change the marketing procedure. The Board seemed to find a solution to one problem just in time to tackle another. Many things were obviously wrong but even with the wide powers conferred on the Board under the B.C. Natural Products Marketing Act, they could go only so far.

Too Many Earlies

One example of their many predicaments came with the early potatoes when the planting season arrived in March last year. Sales of the late crop were good and prices encouraging. The regular growers on the warm peninsula at Boundary Bay set out their regular acreage.

Up to that point everything went well but some of their neighbors on cooler land got the early potato planting bug. They scoured the country for seed. Some were still planting early varieties while neighboring farmers were starting to cultivate their second-early potatoes.

The Coast Vegetable Marketing Board had early potatoes rolling into the warehouse when it should have been able to concentrate its efforts on the sale of later, smooth varieties.

Summertime was well advanced before the Board told the growers this bad news. Up to that time everyone was expressing sympathy with the growers over the problem of the imported potatoes. California had a huge crop of earlies and had shipped carloads into Canada at prices which did not make local growers happy.

The Board members reminded growers, too, that the early potato market is not the same as that for late potatoes. It is a limited market. The housewife has an unexplainable urge to get away from her routine when spring rolls around. She likes the idea of putting a thin-skinned potato under the water tap, giving the potato a bit of a brush and plopping the shining tuber into the pot to boil. Once the skin gets to the tough stage where it has to be peeled, then the love for early potatoes is lost.

When potatoes have to be peeled then the consumer wants a variety with few eyes and none of those sunken-eyed,

multi-eyed, early varieties will get a second glance from the buyers. But last year the Coast Board had more than a thousand tons of those earlies to sell for growers when the later varieties were ready for digging.

They cut the price, they pleaded with the trade, and went on bended knee to the housewife to eat more early potatoes. By hook or crook they sold the earlies but they could have managed better without that additional tonnage. In fact, they told growers that too much land suited only for late varieties had been planted to earlies.

The fall harvest pointed up another excellent crop. The yield from the larger acreage in 1953 was better than usual. The Board knew from time to time that the harvest started in September that it would have one of the largest crops in its history to sell before spring.

They knew as well that the U.S. growers were digging another bumper crop and could easily surmise that this market would appear quite lucrative to growers there who might have some difficulty to sell all their production at home.

One thing that seemed to be proved beyond dispute during the last few months on the Vancouver market is that the consumer does not do all buying on price basis alone. B.C. potato prices were below those for the imported potatoes but they were not selling.

A glance over the store counters provided a partial answer. The stores were featuring the imported potatoes. That was not true in all stores. Some went out of their way to sell local produce, but the appearance of the well-graded imported potatoes proved a greater attraction than the price tags.

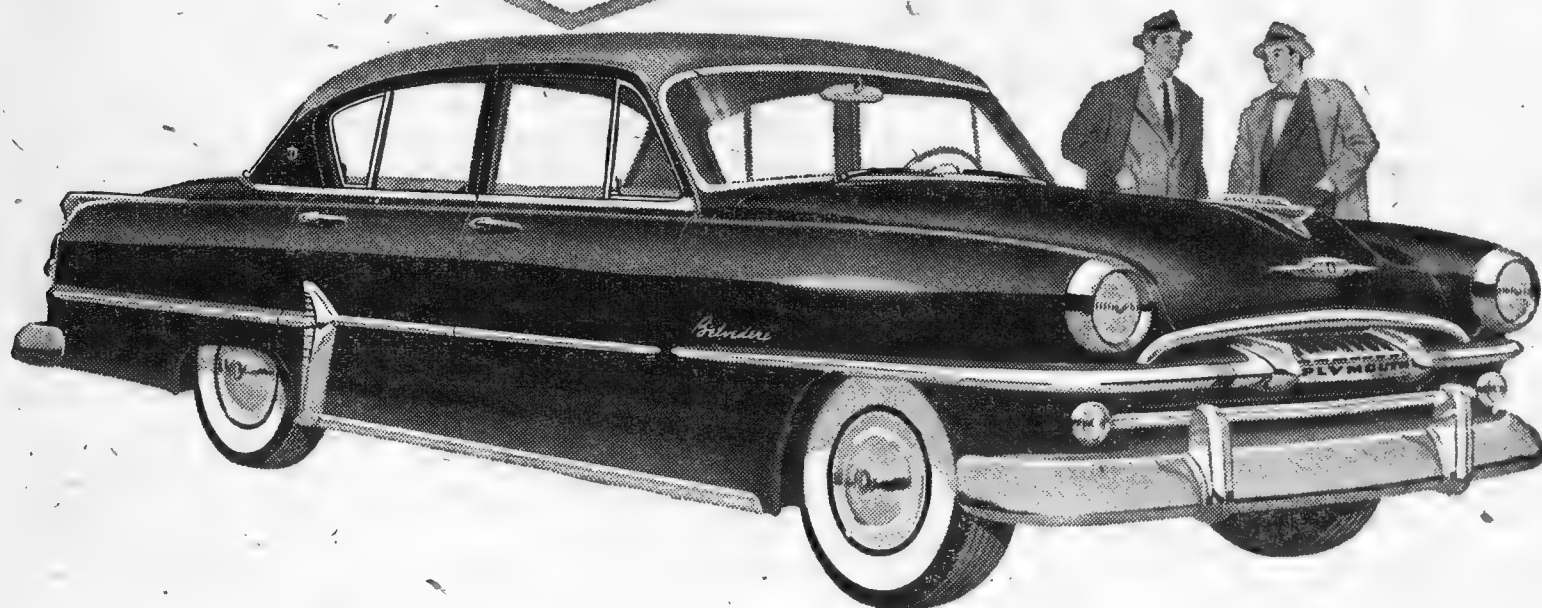
Prefer U.S.

The women shoppers told the produce managers they could depend on the quality of the U.S. potatoes. On the other hand they deplored the variation in quality of the home-grown spuds.

This word got back to the Board. They started to do something about it. They obtained the help of the B.C. Department of Agriculture and an inspector was put to work. His job was to examine every shipment of potatoes and if it did not come up to grade he ordered it regraded. That cost the producer money which he could have saved by doing a good job of grading before shipping.

The next move was to dye all the culls. That did not spoil them for feeding, but it prevented those culls from being sold and giving the coast-grown potatoes a bad name again. The Board has still another plan up its sleeve to counter the claim that quality is not consistent. They plan to institute cooking tests and only those potatoes which can come up to a high standard will be sold as "quality tested".

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A FEW months ago an irate reader of the Farm and Ranch Review saw fit to write that "never in the fruit industry's history has there been discovered any spray which would artificially color an apple."

Alas, he wrote without reckoning on the magic of the laboratories which are daily stretching the list of chemicals used in agriculture; for in 1952 the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association was officially advised that certain chemicals "are quite effective in reducing the pre-harvest drop of apples," and that one of them (2,4,5-T.P.) "gave an increase in the red color of the apples" . . . and "In the apple growing areas of Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia, 2,4,5-T.P. was extensively used this year with excellent results." A similar product under the trade name "Color Set" was described in 1951 in the trade magazine of the Dow Chemical Co. This is just one of the dozens of freakish services offered to modern farming.

A "Guide to the Chemicals Used in Crop Protection" was prepared by Martin and Miles of the Science Service Laboratory at London, Ontario, in 1951. The authors explain it was a problem to know what chemicals to include. Some were left out because they have dropped out of use, others could not be described "for reasons of patent law". However, they managed to compile a fairly complete description of 177 compounds, without listing the variations of each which may be formulated by the companies who sell them. As the outstanding example, 2,4-D is offered in 13 main types which have been mixed in various ways to give the Canadian customer 130 products to choose from.

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Ignorance is bliss when it comes to chemicals

By JOSEPH PAUL

It will be noted, of course, the "Guide" prepared by Martin and Miles does not include fertilizers, biological preparations or products used entirely for animal protection. It is, therefore, a guide to only one division of agricultural chemicals, and it is prefaced with this remark:

"Twelve years ago the chemicals used for the protection of crops from insects, fungi or weeds could have been listed on a single quarto page. Today their number has extended and their nomenclature has become so involved that few would attempt to memorize their particulars."

No Disgrace

Comparative ignorance of agricultural chemicals is no disgrace these days. You may not know there is a chemical which will save you the bother of mowing your lawn, or one that will keep your potatoes from sprouting. That is not a serious matter, because there are a lot of folks who lead a happy life without being able to remember the difference between D.D.T. and 2,4-D. Nevertheless, the hasty development and marketing of more and more products, is creating confusion which can become costly and dangerous as well as embarrassing.

There is an increasing tendency to publish circulars or articles describing some new-fangled chemical and to end up by saying: "For further information consult your local agricultural officials" or "For detailed instructions see your agricultural representative." Those who follow such advice usually find their "agricultural officials" don't know the difference between Malathion, Parathion, and Pyrenone. But there are important differences.

Last fall we had the spectacle of a widespread "recommendation" to treat wheat with Pyrenone. This was to protect the stored grain against the rusty grain beetle. Nobody worried

about how to protect the rusty grain beetle from a combination of dry grain and cold weather,—the two things he cannot withstand. It is not likely that anyone became confused and used the wrong insecticide on their wheat. Even if they did it is unlikely the ill effects will ever be detected. We are surprisingly lucky in such matters as a rule.

This is just one more example of the use of agricultural chemicals to relieve a condition which could be completely, quietly, and safely avoided by the diligent application of common sense and good workmanship. It is regrettable, indeed, that our agricultural experts have failed to publish the fact that *dry threshing and weather-proof storage are the only satisfactory answer to problems of keeping grain on prairie farms.*

It seems odd that in a country where so many are so well paid to perform these little services for agriculture, it should remain for the Minister of Trade and Commerce to be the only one to publicly emphasize this homely fact.

The great array of chemicals now offered as aids to farming, is leading us more and more into the error of treating the symptom and leaving the real trouble uncorrected. For example: there are several "safe" and effective insecticides which can be used to get rid of cattle lice.

But what does the stockman gain by using the insecticide and doing nothing about the bad feeding practice or unthrifty breeding stock that caused the condition to develop?

It is like treating weedy fields with chemicals instead of spending the time and money on a programme of tillage that will give a greater and surer return. Note in each case, the chemical treatment is the one

that seems easiest for the agricultural representative to recommend and for the farmer to apply.

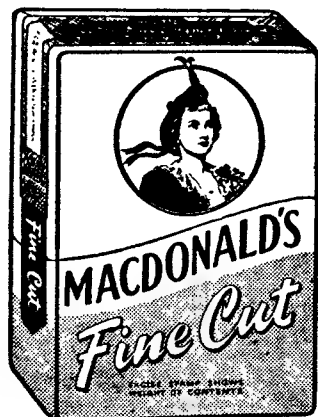
Unsound Practices

These unsound but harmless practices are the least of the evils of this age of chemical farming. The last few years have seen a rush in the patenting and licensing of new products in which the will to sell has outweighed every other consideration. With the range of substitute crops each district has to choose from today, there is no production problem that can warrant the widespread sale and handling of some of these products.

A scientist who studied the "Health Hazards Associated with Use of Airplanes for Dusting Crops with Parathion", found that only one of the men under observation developed "symptoms". In no instance where proper precautions were observed did symptoms occur. The precautions recommended were the use of protective clothing and a full face gas mask connected with an organic vapor and acid gas absorption canister. You may not have all of this equipment handy, but you can buy Parathion in large quantities.

There were two circulars doing the rounds last summer, both advertising Malathion. One said: "Malathion is safer to handle than most insecticides and has a relatively short residual life, therefore, can be used safely upon edible fruits and vegetables up to 14 days before harvest." The other said: "With Malathion (Malathion) the residual kill lasts 10 to 21 days" (this referred to a stronger solution to be used in buildings for fly control). There is a probability of faster weathering away when the material is used outdoors; but even when you allow for this, it seems too much dependence is placed on the fact that the human body seldom shows any definite symptom of the ill effects of very small amounts of insecticide.

(The first of two articles, the second will appear in our next issue.)



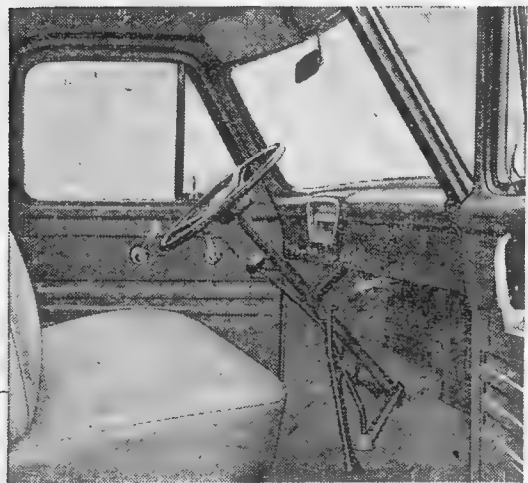
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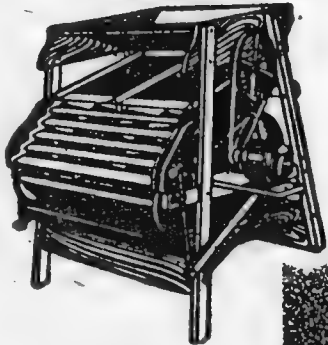
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Country Diary

FEBRUARY in our northern land is practically mid-winter, but the worst is behind us, and when the storm winds have blown and wearied themselves out, our faces are set towards the Spring. Just about this time a temporary lull, like a hush seems to fall on the frozen prairie. I have often noticed it, and it might be likened to a pause in a symphony when the great conductor brings the fury of his music to a sudden stop, so significant that the very silence seems a vital part of the performance before the beginning of a new theme.

This pause of Nature's by February's end might be the sign of Spring's advance. It may be the chinook's sweeping warmth, a subdued shade of the sharp azure sky, a softness in the air. On one of these days we plod down the lane and find the new seed catalogue in the mail-box, a true red-letter day.

Settled in the cosy old chair before the crackling heater, with the companionable grey cat watching the leaping flames through the isinglass, this enthusiast can scan the brilliant pages in luxurious leisure. Dreaming is planning, and February's dreams and plans are best made under these circumstances. The red glow of the stove seems to emphasize security and comfort of the home, and enhance the mood for relaxation and reflection. Something that was infinitely worth keeping went out of life when switch-button living came in.

Entries in the diary reveal visits of "Wise Minerva's fowl" to the poplar grove. He is here again and the stillness of dark early hours is broken by his deep "who-who" questionings and unanswered echoes. His weird notes seem attuned to the melancholy rustlings of the

wind in leafless branches. I find a sort of charm in the haunting hootings. Perhaps they are a love-call to his mate; perhaps he is mocking the humans behind the darkened windows. Little Hiawatha, scared by the ghostly noises ran to the shelter of his grandmother's deerskin, "Hush, my darling," soothed old Nokomis, "'tis but the owl and owlet talking."

Right in the middle of February is a bright, pretty day. The sky may be gray and cold, but spirits are brightened, and hearts lightened by tokens of love and kindness. The old bishop who became a saint, many hundreds of years ago little knew that a day would be named for him and remembered through the ages by the young—and the not so young—as the opportunity to show their affection one to another. There might well be many more of such occasions.

While we know by this time that the end of war was no blessed millenium—indeed, there is still unending conflict in all forms of life throughout the world, most of it unnecessary and purposeless—it is good to know that there is enough beauty and kindness in the world for everyone to put away the harsh things and fill his heart thereof.



"...and if you don't okay my loan I may be tempted by one of the isms."

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Why not have a "Foster Mother's Day"?

By A. L. MARKS

THE heart of the average person is most wonderfully kind, and the world is usually quick to recognize and glad to acknowledge a good deed. But sometimes I wonder why we don't acknowledge a "Foster-Mother's Day."

Motherhood is a dignity and responsibility too often thrust upon an unwilling person. But what of her who, through love alone, assumes that responsibility toward some other mother's child? What under Heaven could be a more praiseworthy act?

In our neighborhood there is a young married couple who had been married for some time while he, with her help, was putting himself through university in a chartered accountant's course.

They were told they could not have children of their own and they loved children.

An application was made to the authorities to adopt the child of an expectant mother.

The child arrived, prematurely, and proved to be twin boys! They kept by their bargain, and though it was tough going they adopted the boys.

But their love was wider than that and they adopted a little girl besides, later on.

From intimate observations we would say we have never known a more happy, healthy or devoted little family.

The little house they call home is now too small for them all. It has only two bedrooms, so they are looking for a larger one and offering the present one for sale to use their equity in it to get another.

The father is now getting established in his profession as a chartered accountant, and the cloudy financial sky is clearing, but they have never faltered in their difficult but happy undertaking.

Surely God must reserve special blessings for love and unselfishness such as that.

Why not specially honor "Foster Mothers" on Mothers' Day? They deserve it.

The following lines are appropriately expressed. They are entitled "Foster Mothers' Day": "How strangely different is mother-love, that separates it from the commonplace. Its source must be from very high

above to add such beauty to the plainest face!"

"O, is it that the anxious heart, whose beat is echoed in a tiny form so near—whose cherished advent so exceeding sweet, that it is held by her forever dear?"

"But what of her whose sympathetic heart, observing one deprived of mother-care, takes to herself, for love, the mother's part? Is such a love exceeded anywhere?"

"May all who, gratefully, for mothers, pray, remember sweetly "Foster Moms" today!"

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THE FARM THAT GREW FROM SEA TO SEA

In 1617, on Champlain's small ship, there came from Paris a man destined to found Canada's greatest industry. He was Louis Hébert, an apothecary who was at heart a farmer.

In spite of opposition from the French Settlement Company who saw New France only as a source of fur and fish, he cleared ten acres of land on the heights above Quebec. Here on Canada's first farm, Louis Hébert bred cattle and raised grain, beans and pumpkins.

From this humble beginning grew an industry that now stretches from sea to sea. Wherever farms were settled across this vast country, dairy cattle continued to be important.

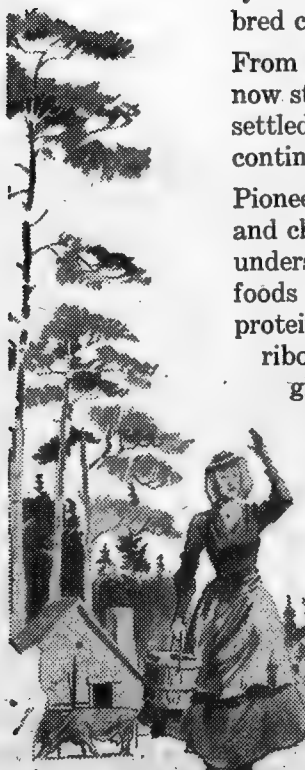
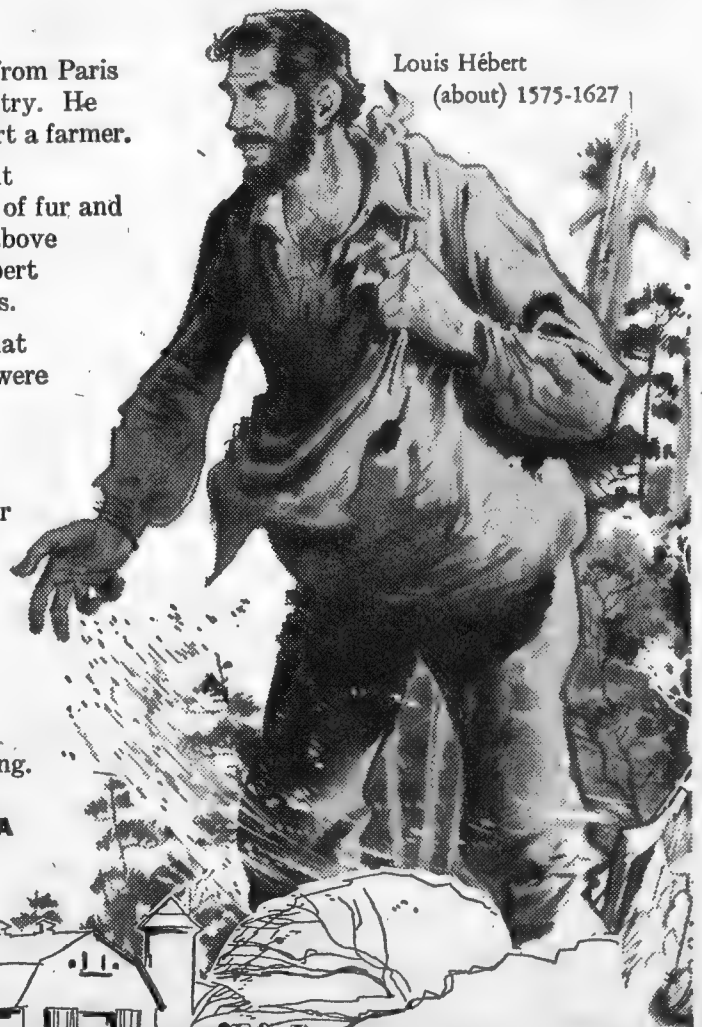
Pioneers were aware of the value of milk, butter and cheese in their diet. Today, with our greater understanding of nutrition, we know that dairy foods are unexcelled as sources of complete protein, vitamins and minerals. Calcium, riboflavin, vitamin A, fat, sugars and energy-giving calories, are supplied flavourfully and at low cost. From Louis Hébert's brave start, 455,000 dairy farmers today produce food essential for our well-being.

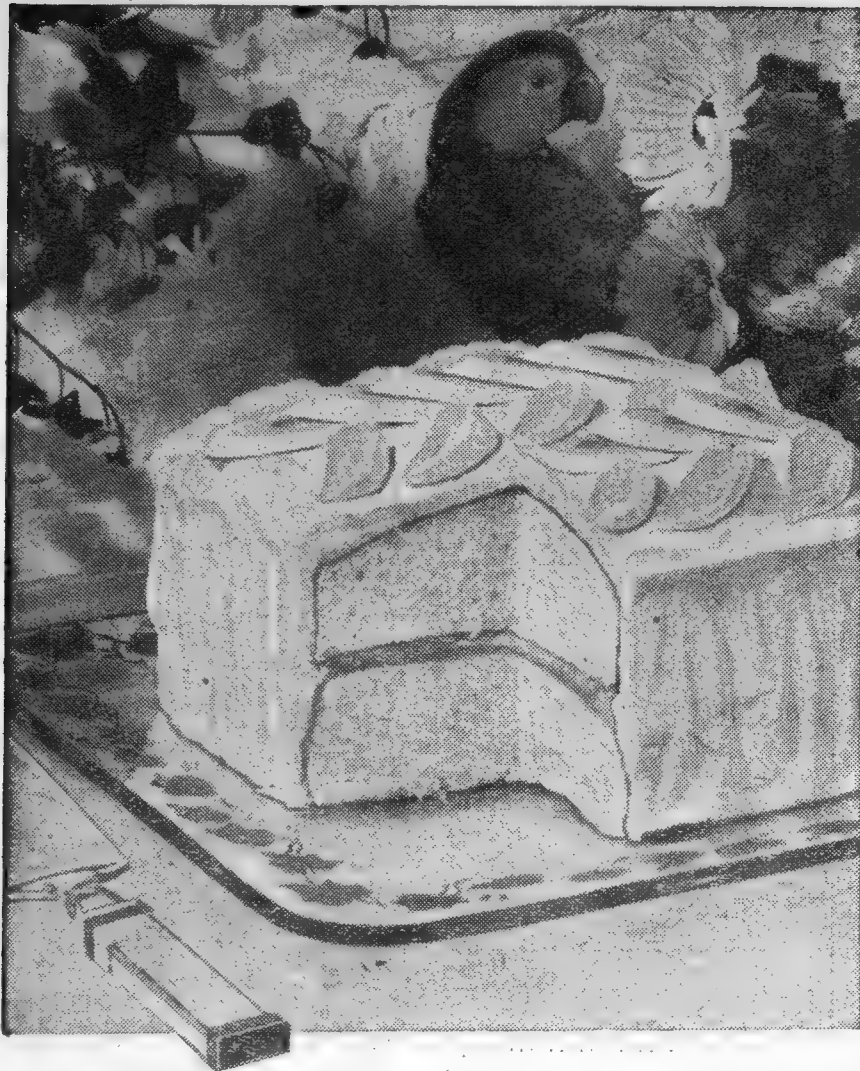
DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

A National Organization of 455,000
Dairy Farmers

Louis Hébert

(about 1575-1627)





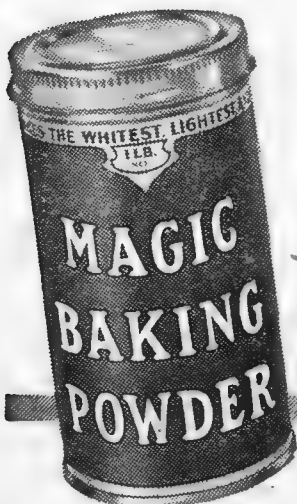
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*Magic costs less than
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2½ cups sifted pastry flour
or 2 cups sifted
all-purpose flour

3 tps. Magic Baking Powder
½ tsp. salt

11 tps. butter or margarine

1 cup fine granulated sugar

2 eggs, well beaten

2 tps. grated orange rind

½ cup milk

½ tsp. vanilla

¼ tsp. almond extract

¼ cup strained orange juice

ORANGE-BANANA CAKE

Grease two 7-inch square or 8-inch round layer-cake pans and line bottoms with greased paper. Preheat oven to 375° (moderately hot). Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt together three times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in sugar; add well-beaten eggs part at a time, beating well after each addition; mix in orange rind. Measure milk and add vanilla and almond extract. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a quarter at a time, alternating with two additions of milk and one addition of orange juice and combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven 25 to 30 minutes. Fill cold cake with orange cake filling; when filling is set, cover cake with the following Orange Butter Icing. Decorate with banana slices and orange segments.

ORANGE BUTTER ICING: Combine 1½ tps. grated orange rind, 1 tbsp. orange juice and ¼ tsp. lemon juice. Cream 4 tps. butter or margarine; beat in 1 egg yolk and a few grains salt. Work in 2 cups sifted icing sugar alternately with fruit rind and juices, using just enough liquid to make an icing of spreading consistency; beat in ¼ tsp. vanilla.

Tasty breads for every occasion

By ANNIE L. GAETZ

INSTEAD of the fussy cakes and pastries of the past, women are finding that fancy breads are very popular with the family. They can usually be made ahead of time, for they improve with keeping for a few days. Here are some good recipes:

Date Loaf

One and one-half cups stoned dates, 1 heaping tbsp. butter, 1 tsp. soda, pinch of salt. Mix and pour over 1 cup boiling water. Let stand until cool. Mix, 1 cup white sugar, 1 unbeat egg, 2 cups flour, 1 cup walnuts. Add the first mixture, beat well and bake in slow oven in loaf tin, about 1½ hours.

Honey Nut Loaf

One tbsp. butter, ½ cup honey, 1 egg beaten, ¼ cup milk, 1 cup flour, sifted with 1 tsp. baking powder and ¼ tsp. salt, ½ tsp. vanilla, ½ cup sultanas, ½ cup chopped walnuts. Mix in order given. Bake in loaf pan, moderate oven about 45 minutes.

Orange Loaf

Take the rind of two good sized oranges and put through the meat grinder or shave with scissors. Put the rind in sauce pan, adding 1 cup water and boil till tender. Then add ¼ cup sugar, boil 5 minutes and set aside. Mix ¾ cup sugar, ½ cup shortening, 1 egg, and add rind mixture. Add 4 level tps. baking powder, ½ tsp. salt, 2½ cups flour, or enough to make a stiff batter. Bake in loaf pan in slow oven 1 hour. Improves by keeping a day or two.

Prune Orange Loaf

One-half cup brown sugar, 2 good tps. shortening, 3 tps. baking powder, 1 tsp. salt, 2 cups whole wheat flour, 1 cup chopped prunes, grated rind of 1 orange. Mix well and add 2 eggs well beaten, 1 cup milk, juice of 1 orange. Mix well and

bake in loaf pan 1 hour. Keeps well.

Cranberry Loaf

Two tps. shortening, 1 heaping cup sugar, 1 egg beaten, 1 cup chopped cranberries, juice and grated rind of 1 orange, 1 cup nuts, 2 cups flour, sifted with 1½ tps. baking powder, ½ tsp. soda, ½ tsp. salt, boiling water. Add most of sugar to cranberries and let stand awhile to absorb some of sugar. Put shortening and juice and rind of orange in measuring cup, and pour boiling water in the cup to make ¾ cup liquid. Combine all ingredients and bake in loaf tin 1 hour; moderate oven.

Quick Apple Bread

One-half cup shortening, 2/3 cup sugar, well beaten, 1 cup ground raw apple cored but not peeled, 2 cups flour sifted with ¼ tsp. salt, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1 tsp. soda. Add ¼ cup chopped nuts. Mix in order given. Bake in loaf tin 1 hour. Moderate oven.

Banana Bread

One cup sugar, ½ cup shortening, 2 eggs beaten, 1½ tps. sour milk, 1 tsp. lemon juice, 1 cup chopped nuts, 2 cups flour, sifted with ½ tsp. soda, 1½ tps. baking powder, ¼ tsp. salt. Add 3 large bananas mashed. Mix well, in order given. Bake in loaf tin, 1 hour; moderate oven.

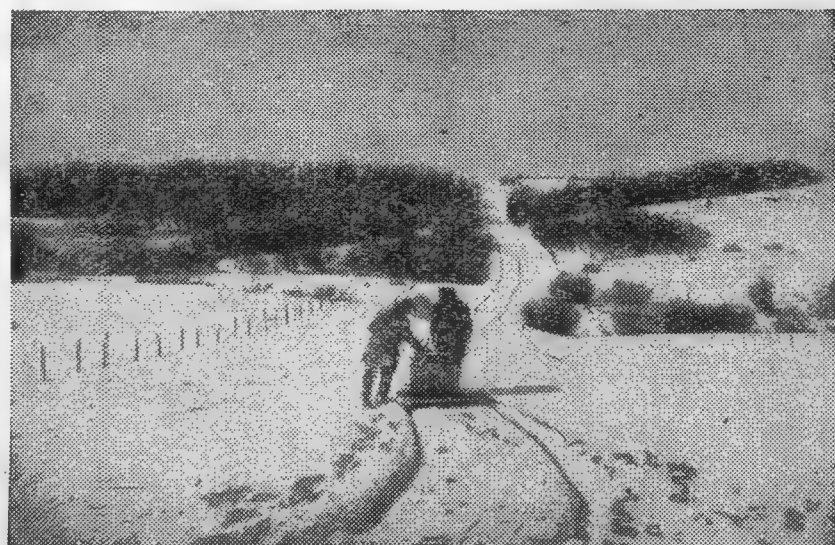
Nut Loaf

One-half cup sugar, 1 egg, 1 cup milk, ¾ cup chopped walnuts, 2 cups flour, sifted with 2 tps. baking powder and ½ tsp. salt. Mix in order given, turn into loaf pan, let rise 20 minutes. Bake in moderate oven.

Graham Nut Bread

One egg, ½ cup sugar, 1 cup sour milk, 1 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. soda, ½ cup nuts, ½ cup raisins, graham flour to mix quite stiff. Bake 40 minutes; moderate oven.

Water Sled



Mrs. Ethel Kerns of Wimborne, Alta., won \$5 for this picture of a cold chore being done the hard way. But without a horse this typical Alberta farm road would have been completely useless.

Aunt Sal Suggests . . .

WE humans are a funny lot. We're never entirely satisfied with what we have. The heat of summer makes us long for winter's chill . . . but when the cold arrives we crave for the sunny warmth of the good old summer-time again. Just that queer contrary streak that is in the best of us.

Two young nephews of mine are staying at my home to-day . . . the older one, who is a flyer, had to park his plane at the local airport and now they're sitting it out waiting for the ceiling to lift. I didn't remind them that I can remember when their Dad had a team of fast stepping mules that could go through any weather upset. There was no need then to consult weather stations and all manner of officials to find out whether it was safe to tackle a trip. Oh, what a different day we are living in.

Checking away back to last November issue (or was it December), I gave you a recipe for a fruit cake and I stated that it called for 13 ounces of flour which I interpreted as $1\frac{5}{8}$ cups. How I groaned over that afterwards for you see flour weighs in at 4 ounces per cup . . . not eight ounces like many staples. A few of you wrote to me about this . . . but I'm wondering what the rest of you did. As a small excuse for my error I'll tell you that the whole recipe came to me expressed in terms of ounces and I can no more think in ounces than I can in pounds, shillings and pence.

However, I tasted two of the cakes using this recipe that had only used the $1\frac{5}{8}$ cups, and they were lovely cakes, so guess it didn't make such a lot of difference. Seems as if a fruit cake is a pretty hard thing to spoil . . . with that amount of rich goodness in it.

Hope you all had as nice a festive season as I did. I was sure I'd never be able to get even a semblance of Christmas ready at our place. So many letters came streaming in asking for recipes and such, but I finally got the bulk of them off to their destination and then I closed up my typewriter and put it in "cold storage" for two weeks, and I didn't even open

any more letters that arrived after December 20th. Mean of me I know, but that was the only course open to me, for I'm a home-maker like the rest of you, and if any time of the year calls for time and effort on our part it is December.

I wonder if any of you canned or froze green peppers, or maybe you don't like them? But just maybe some of you who claim you don't like them, have never tried them. I know that was the way it was with us at our house. But once we got initiated to them, we really liked them.

Last fall was the first year that I canned them. And since then I've wished that I'd canned ten times as much. Our favorite pepper dish is just to "frazzle" them in the skillet with butter as you would onions, then add beaten eggs and scramble the two together.

But now that I have them canned ready I often open a pint sealer and add chopped, cooked peppers to various meat or vegetable dishes. I concocted one the other day that we really liked. I didn't feel like taking the blame (or praise) for the recipe myself so when Oscar asked me what it was I casually replied: "Oh, it's a Spanish dish."

Aunt Sal's Spanish Dish

Fry about six slices of chopped-up bacon until tender. Then add one or two chopped onions, 1 pint chopped peppers, 1 cup cooked corn, 1 pint cooked ripe tomatoes. Stir occasionally and keep cooking over low heat. If you want to turn this into a casserole dish, then finish it up for about 20 minutes in hot oven, topped with cracker crumbs.

Several of you wrote in commenting on that question on canning cauliflower in tins. Even though I told you that they proved in a scientific lab. that this was perfectly safe, many of you still don't like the idea, but three of you stated that you'd canned this vegetable under glass and it was very nice. As for me, I think there is only one way to preserve it and that is to freeze it.

Bye bye for now . . . and every good wish.

Aunt Sal.

The Dishpan Philosopher

WITH folks who February see as wearisome I disagree. I never really find it dull because I take it as a lull before the storm of Spring blows in, and days of full-time work begin. It's true there still is lots to do but there's a bit of leisure too, in which we can tie up loose ends like writing letters to our friends; go visiting, and entertain without the later stress and strain. There's time to read a book or two and new Spring catalogues look through, and listen to some talks and plays. — Yes, I like February days.

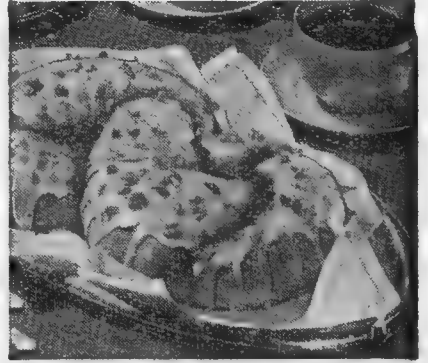
Don't get me wrong! I have no dread of the new season's work ahead. But honestly I must admit I like when things slow down a bit. When Spring arrives upon the scene spare hours are few and far between.

One Basic Dough makes 4 yummy dessert treats!

1. Cinnamon Square



2. Apricot Figure 8



3. Fruit Coil



4. Sugared Jelly Buns



Amazingly Versatile Dough with new Fast Dry Yeast!

You make a single quick-rising dough with the new Fleischmann's Fast Dry Yeast . . . your oven produces four thrilling dessert treats! When you bake at home, see how this sure, quick-acting yeast helps multiply variety on your table. Needs no refrigeration — get a month's supply!



Basic COFFEE CAKE Dough

Scald

2 cups milk

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup lukewarm water

2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

2 envelopes Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk and

4 well-beaten eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift together twice

7 cups once-sifted bread flour

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup granulated sugar

1 tablespoon salt

Stir about 6 cupfuls into the yeast mixture; beat until smooth and elastic.

Work in remaining dry ingredients and $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:

1. CINNAMON SQUARE

Combine $\frac{1}{2}$ cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon; sprinkle on board. Place one portion of dough on sugar mixture and roll into a 12-inch square; fold dough from back to front, then from left to right; repeat this rolling and folding twice, using a little flour on the board, if necessary; seal edges. Place in greased 8-inch square pan; press out to edges. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Cream 2 tbsps. butter or margarine, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar and $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. cinnamon; mix in $\frac{1}{4}$ cup broken walnuts and 1 tbsps. milk. Spread over risen dough. Bake at 350°, 30 to 35 mins.

2. APRICOT FIGURE EIGHT

Combine $\frac{1}{2}$ cup brown sugar, 1 tbsps. flour, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. mace and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup finely-chopped nuts. Roll out one portion of dough into a rectangle about 22 by 6 inches. Spread with 2 tbsps. soft butter or margarine; sprinkle with nut mixture. Fold dough lengthwise into 3 layers. Twist dough from end to end; form into figure 8 on greased pan. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, about 30 mins. Fill crevices of hot figure 8 with thick apricot jam; spread other surfaces with white icing; sprinkle with nuts.

3. FRUIT COIL

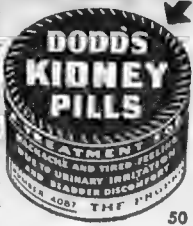
Knead into one portion of dough, 2 tbsps. grated orange rind, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup raisins, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped nuts and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup well-drained cut-up red and green maraschino cherries. Roll out dough, using the hands, into a rope about 30 inches long. Beginning in the centre of a greased deep 8-inch round pan, swirl rope loosely around and around to edge of pan. Brush with 2 tbsps. melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with mixture of $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 35 to 40 mins.

4. SUGARED JELLY BUNS

Cut one portion of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball; roll in melted butter or margarine, then in granulated sugar. Place, well apart, on greased pan; flatten slightly. Cover and let rise until doubled. Form an indentation in the top of each bun by twisting the handle of a knife in the top; fill with jelly. Cover and let rise 15 mins. longer. Bake at 350°, 15 to 18 mins.

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50

SOME months I have made the practice of picking out one question and designating it as "the pet question" of the month. I've decided to follow that habit this month and I've picked question one as the "pet of the month". It deals with a problem that I know next-to-nothing about . . . namely, home-made soap.

Let's Ask Aunt Sal . . .

Glaze Syrup

I think it has been four years or so since we touched on this topic. I'm positive there are many good soap-makers among you readers . . . so how about "getting into the act" and writing us about this. I'm not offering any prizes . . . other than a snapshot of yours truly. If you have not a snapshot and would like one . . . just add that notation to your letter, eh?

A.: Dissolve in this proportion 2 cups white sugar, 1 cup water and $\frac{1}{8}$ tsp. cream of tartar. (This does not make a large batch) . . . Place over heat and stir only until sugar is dissolved. Keep sides of pan free of crystals, wiping with either a clean, wet cloth or pastry brush. Use candy thermometer and cook over high heat to 315° F. Remove from heat and dip in fruits, nuts, etc., while syrup is still hot. Note: Fresh or frozen strawberries, grapes and such are delicious this way.

Q.: I have made several batches of soap and have always had good luck with them. I always used pork lard . . . but the last time when I used beef tallow the soap crumbled. Could you give me any information on this?—(Mrs. J. S., Turin, Alta.)

Q.: Could you, please, give me the recipe for Drama Cake?—(Mrs. T. K., Stauffer, Alta.)

A.: I have had no experience with this at all, but I'm positive there are readers of this page who have, so we'll have to wait for their help.

A.: I'm not sure whether this is the one you seek, but it is one that I call DREAM CAKE (or Walnut Slice). Combine $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter and 1 cup all-purpose flour. Press into pan and bake in moderate oven until delicate brown.

Q.: Have you the recipe telling how to glaze fruits, etc.?—(Mrs. S. J., Huxley, Alta.)

Filling: $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups brown sugar; 2 well-beaten eggs; 1 cup chopped walnuts, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup coconut; 1 tsp. baking powder, 1 tsp. vanilla. Mix well and spread on baked crust. Bake until golden brown.

Q.: I noticed your request for an old copy of the Five Roses cook book. If you have any to spare I would like one, too.—(Mrs. F. J. R., Cut Knife, Sask.)

A.: I'm very sorry, but I sent out the only ones that were offered to me. If there are any more available old copies (not the revised ones) you can spare, you might be good enough to drop me a card to that effect.

Q.: Do you know of any place where I could sell crochet work? (By request unsigned.)

A.: I have been able to promote sale of some of this work a few times, but usually it was not a very satisfactory transaction as hand-made work never does bring in the price it deserves. I have contacted the only handicraft shop that wanted articles for sale before, and they report they are well stocked up at present. So sorry!

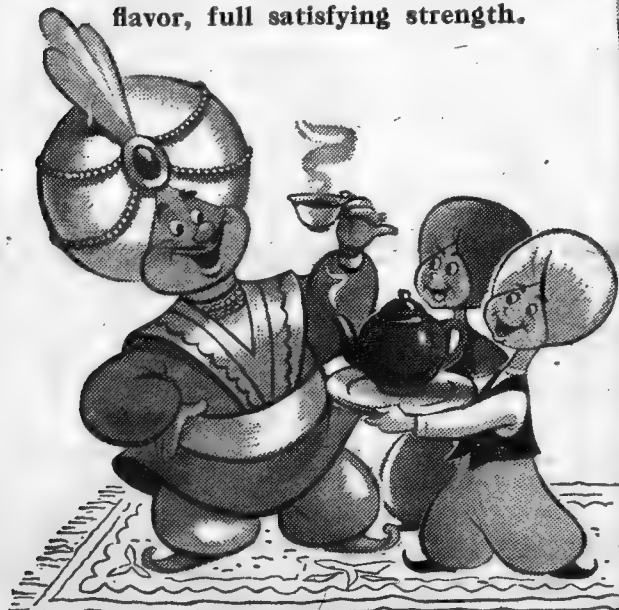
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"Fill 'er up."

Q.: My baby spit up some of her formula food onto the neck of her shirts and nighties, and this has left a nasty stain that does not seem to yield even with bleach. Can you offer some solution? — (Mrs. F. J., Taber, Alta.)

A.: I would say that this stain is only a milk stain (Mrs. J enclosed the formula), but a milk stain can prove to be one of the most stubborn of all. Anything stained with milk must be soaked in cold water... the hot water will set the stain every time. But in order to remove the stain now, I suggest you get some pepsin at the druggist's... lacking this, then try ye olde friend carbon tetrachloride.

Q.: Could you tell me if any of these articles are of any real value... a brooch of three 5-cent pieces of Queen Victoria's time 1888; a brooch of three nuggets size of beans; a gold coin, \$2.50, 1887? If so, where could I sell them? — (Mrs. E. S., Stranger, Alta.)

A.: I'm sorry that I haven't any books on the subject of old coins at all. How about writing your nearest city to either their public library or large book store? (Is there any reader who can give more explicit help on this?)

NOTE: All readers are invited to send in their home-making problems to Aunt Sal, in care of the Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta. If you wish a private reply enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Limit one question to each letter. There is no charge for this service.

Life expectancy in Canada and United States has increased from 49 years at the beginning of the century to 67 years at the present time. Better nutrition has been a contributing factor.



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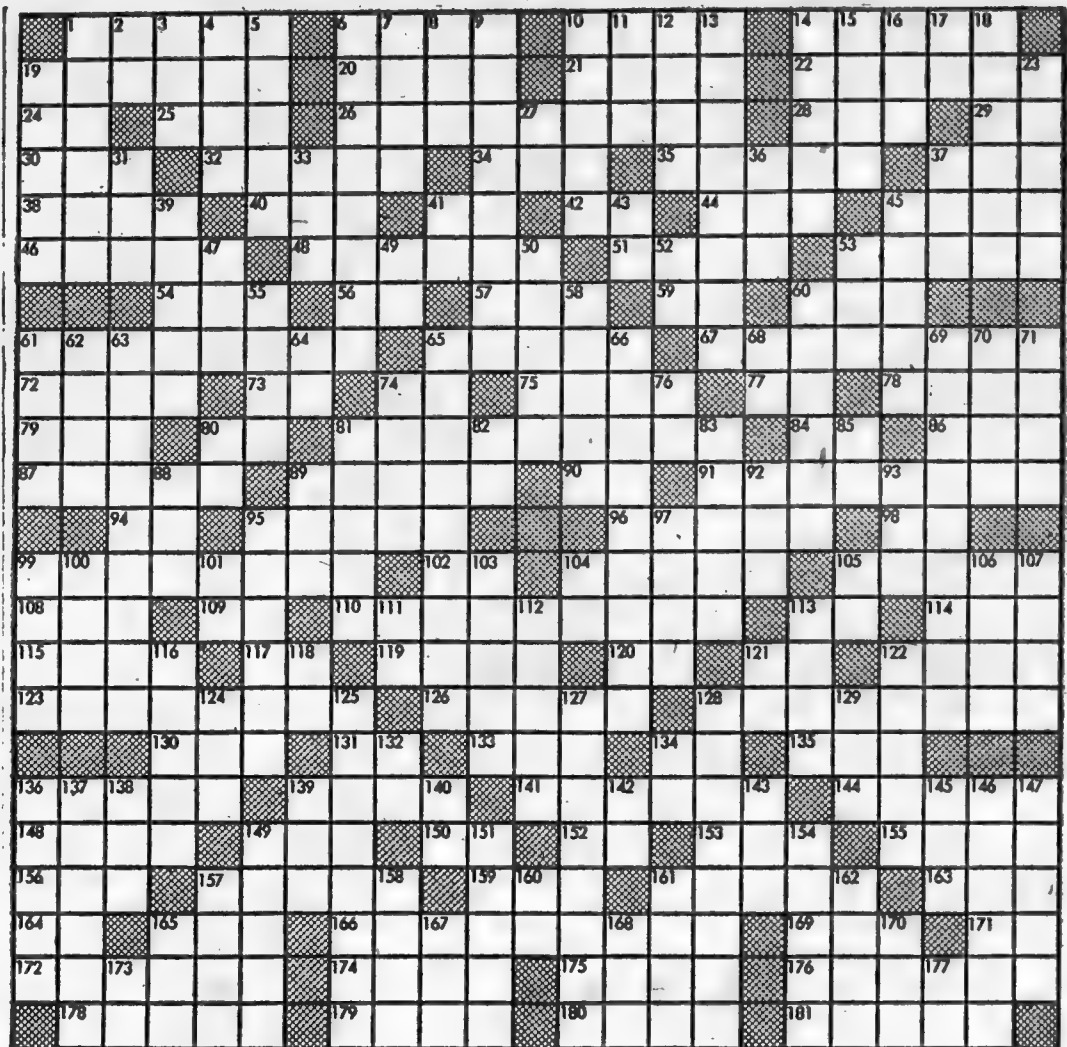
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Our Crossword Puzzle



HORIZONTAL

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 Chief gold coin of the Moslems | 61 Vehicle | 122 Cold, violent wind of the Adriatic |
| 6 Loan | 65 Kind of car | 123 Agreed |
| 10 Young salmon | 67 School term | 126 Pasture land |
| 14 Kind of tie | 72 Nome in Greece | 128 Trivial |
| 19 To quit | 73 A volume | 130 Sloths |
| 20 Woodwind instrument | 74 A direction | 131 Symbol for radon |
| 21 Arrow poison | 75 The true olives | 133 The grampus |
| 22 Kind of wine | 77 Member of Parliament | 134 3,1416 |
| 24 Correlative of either | 78 Summer drink | 135 Elongated fish |
| 25 Part of mouth | 79 Number | 136 Begin |
| 26 Scandinavia | 80 Exists | 139 Thailand |
| 28 American author | 81 French cavalry troops | 141 Treats with a certain acid |
| 29 Denoting unfit ship in Lloyd's register | 84 Hawaiian bird | 144 Good in character |
| 30 To tear | 86 Allow | 148 Strokes lightly |
| 32 ... Barkley | 87 U. S. emblem | 149 Part of body |
| 34 Billiard stick | 89 Kind of writing | 150 Aloft |
| 35 Drank excessively | 90 Elder member of firm (abbr.) | 152 Syllable of scale |
| 37 By way of | 91 Ropers | 153 Consume |
| 38 Old Roman date | 94 Behold! | 155 Rub dry |
| 40 Affirmative | 95 City of Ecuador | 156 Chemical suffix |
| 41 City in Chaldea | 96 Kind of fruit | 157 Finds fault with |
| 42 Country of Europe (abbr.) | 98 Symbol for iridium | 159 Hawaiian wreath |
| 44 Vase | 99 Enjoyment | 161 Small part left over |
| 45 Ancient ax-shaped stone | 102 No good | 163 Suitable |
| 46 Coin (pl.) | 104 Weight of England | 164 Artificial language |
| 48 Dormant | 105 Thin narrow boards | 165 Vehicle |
| 51 Decorative jug | 108 Meadow | 166 Momentous |
| 53 Squeeze | 109 Babylonian deity | 169 Encountered |
| 54 Part of circle | 110 Protecting | 171 Exclamation of triumph |
| 56 Pronoun | 113 Japanese marine measure | 172 Hire |
| 57 Offer | 114 Fasten | 174 Require |
| 59 Bought (abbr.) | 115 Finishes | 175 Opposed to weather |
| 60 Anger | 117 Symbol for rhodium | 176 Word of promise |
| | 119 Feminine name | 178 Locations |
| | 120 Symbol for cerium | 179 Obtains |
| | 121 Symbol for barium | 180 Tall marsh grass |
| | | 181 Pertaining to an extent of land |

VERTICAL

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Ridicule | 61 A whale | 111 Exclamation |
| 2 Pronoun | 62 Appellation of Athena | 112 Acquire knowledge |
| 3 Nothing | 63 Acts as head of improper enterprise | 113 Rant |
| 4 Tune | 64 Depart | 116 Withers |
| 5 Answer | 65 Something to improve flavor of | 118 Pronoun |
| 6 Feeling the need of company | 66 Persons afflicted with nerves | 121 Buddhist monk |
| 7 Black | 68 Printer's measure | 122 Under |
| 8 Correlative of neither | 69 One who bears up under | 124 Insect's egg |
| 9 Recount | 70 River of Germany | 125 Falling in drops |
| 10 Heaps | 71 Rodents | 127 Arab saber |
| 11 Collection of facts | 74 Act of shooting | 128 Managed |
| 12 To lease | 76 Land measure | 129 Jewel |
| 13 Kind of fortification (pl.) | 80 Pacific island screw pine | 132 Symbol for sodium |
| 14 Tremulous | 81 Weeps | 134 Hebrew letter |
| 15 Equipped with tires | 82 A direction | 136 Church steeple |
| 16 Letter of alphabet | 83 To throw | 137 Bird's claws |
| 17 Correlative of either | 85 Bone | 138 Goddess of infatuation |
| 18 Tracks | 88 An African worm which infests eye | 139 Title of respect |
| 19 Dewy | 89 A wether lamb | 140 Greek letter |
| 23 Irish poet | 92 Farewell | 142 Kind of palm |
| 27 Symbol for europium | 93 Lubricating liquid | 143 Babylonian numeral |
| 31 Writing implement | 95 Liquid measure (pl.) | 145 Narrow inlet |
| 33 Wager | 97 Unaccompanied | 146 Fill with horror |
| 36 Lever | 99 Request | 147 A river of Hades |
| 37 Letter of alphabet | 100 Part of camera | 149 Babbles |
| 39 Asterisks | 101 Symbol for selenium | 151 Trudges |
| 41 Aloft | 103 The "elder statesman" of Japan (abbr.) | 154 City of Florida |
| 43 Symbol for platinum | 104 State (abbr.) | 157 Place for confining birds |
| 45 Plant of mustard family | 105 Spanish for "yes" | 158 Widgeon |
| 47 Fortunate (India) | 106 To weary | 160 Teutonic deity |
| 49 Syllable of scale | 107 Close securely | 161 To cut, after snick |
| 50 Antics | | 162 Fruit |
| 52 River of Russia | | 165 Feline |
| 53 Prefix: before | | 167 Fondle |
| 55 Rotating pieces | | 168 Beverage |
| 58 Ravines | | 170 Cornish prefix: signifying town |
| 60 Put a burden on | | 173 U. S. soldier |
| | | 177 On account (abbr.) |

Solution Next Month

BOG SPAVIN?



"I CLEAR IT UP FAST!"

says C. W. Pace, Langmont, Colo.

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Cold? Who Cares?



Dehorn those calves and do it early!

DELAY may make a major operation of a minor one! This is particularly true of dehorning, advises W. C. Gordon, Livestock Supervisor, Alberta Department of Agriculture. Calves' horns are relatively soft and easy to remove, they heal quickly, and the calves on cows do not lose any appreciable weight. The calves are easier to handle than older animals, and there is less chance of injury to the animal and to the operator.

Cattle with horns tend to fight considerably, thus disturbing the peaceful atmosphere necessary for rapid and efficient gains. In addition the bruises on the carcass mean loss to the packer. In the first place the feeder loses out, in the second, the packer loses. Hence both will discriminate against horned cattle, perhaps as much as \$10 per head.

With this in mind, Mr. Gordon urges producers to start a campaign of dehorning. Since older cattle receive a more serious set back and more feed is required to gain that weight back, he would like to emphasize the importance of dehorning young stock.

Methods:

1. Caustic paste — Where calves are kept near the buildings and can be treated when a few days old, caustic paste does a good job. This is used chiefly in dairy herds or small farm herds.
2. Horn scoops.
3. Tube dehorners.
4. Barnes type dehorner — available in two sizes. Effective on cattle up to a year of age. Works on a lever principle, making it possible to remove larger horns than is possible with either tube or scoop.
5. Blade-type dehorner — necessary for dehorning cattle over a year. Very effective for removing large horns.

Meditations at Twilight

By A. L. MARKS

THERE'S a world of difference between a proverb and a slogan. A proverb is a thoughtful, honestly-intended statement of some important truth. A slogan is a disarmingly deceptive statement with a selfish purpose of some sort, designed to mislead one's judgment.

Rosenkrantz, in his reference work on education, makes this experimentally true observation: "Man is by nature lazy," and it is unfortunate that one of the things the average person most dislikes to do is to think.

That weakness makes him an easy prey to all sorts of sophistries, and he grasps at slogans rather than the worthy suggestions of a proverb. The reason undoubtedly is that the slogan is expressed in general terms, requires no thought, and is useful to accommodate his own selfish interests at the time he recalls it.

For that reason mankind seems to be governed in its decisions oftener by slogans than by the thoughtful suggestions of proverbs.

Possibly the reason we permit ourselves to be so deceived was mentioned by the philosopher who once remarked that: "We say things first because someone else has said them. Then we believe them because we ourselves have said them."

What a different aroma is left in the mind when we consider such proverbs, for example as: "If you would have a friend, be one"; "As ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them"; "Judge not, that ye be not judged"; "Let every echo of what you say and do be a kindly one."

It may be that the extra thinking you do will help the world in some way to save itself from itself, its greatest enemy.



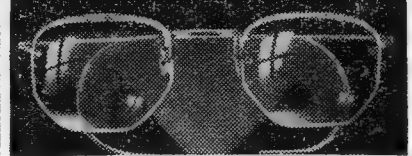
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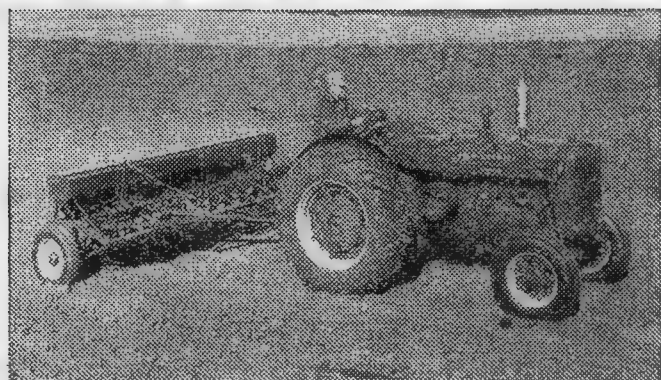
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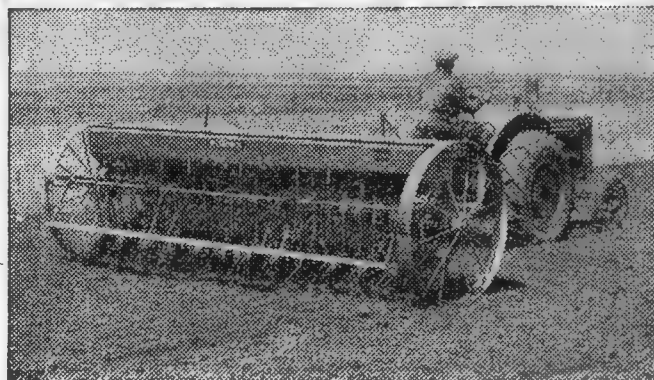
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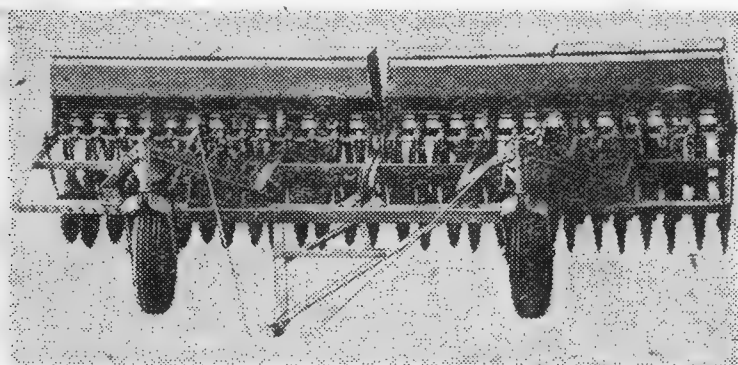
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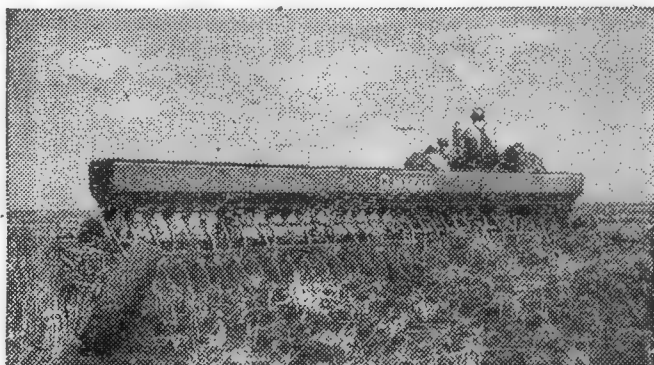
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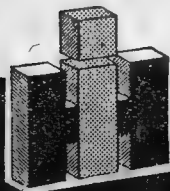
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ALBERTA LIVESTOCK ASSN.
Calgary, Alberta

About one year ago when Dad was out haying, he caught a small duck which was a few months old. He brought it home and we decided to have it as a pet. We built it a pen of chicken wire and also built it a small swimming pool. The duck seemed to be happy and spent most of his time in the swimming pool. We kept it about two months and then let it go so as it could join the other ducks going south.

Johnny Trefarenko.
Plamondon, Alta.

One day I saw a rooster and cat being chased out of the yard together, going through the gate in the hurry the rooster straddled the cat, and both kept going in that position half way across the yard. Finally the rooster took flight to one side, then the cat turned around with disgust to see who had been hitching a ride. The rooster looked delighted to be on his own again.

David Pizzy.
Box 94, Binscarth, Man.

In our granary we have a pet squirrel which will not let us touch him, but will come quite close. Last fall when we had threshers they were finishing about 10 o'clock and moving to another place so Mama and my little sister, Linda, took the men an apple to eat on the road. There were some left over so they set them in the granary while they went to the chicken house for the eggs. When they came back the squirrel had eaten a big piece out of one of the apples. I guess this shows squirrels like apples.

Judy Moorhouse.
Breton, Alberta.

One day, when we were piling beet tops, we heard strange noises. The cows in the field started to stampede. Dad was working close by on the tractor and started hollering at the dogs. After a while the same thing happened, so my brother ran up to Dad to see what the trouble was. There we saw a coyote chasing our cattle around. We started chasing it, but by the time we got over the hill the coyote had disappeared away. Now the cows spook at any noise they hear.

Mary Ann Snopek.
Iron Springs, Alta.

One summer morning last year I noticed a baby hawk in with the chicks in our yard, and I wondered where they were coming from, and soon I found out. In the bush behind the house I found a huge nest in a tree. I wondered what kind of bird it was. I climbed the tree and as I reached the nest a fluffy little hawk poked his head out and opened his mouth as though he wanted food. Then I recognized that it was the same little hawk that was in our yard. Then, to my amazement, a mother crow came and settled

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on the nest. I climbed down and stood there. I thought she might peck me, but later I found that the crow was caring for it and feeding it and wouldn't let me near. I thought that maybe it found it and thought it was her own baby. Then I found a dead hawk below. The crow had found it dead and nursed its babies.

Kenneth Still.

Box 164A, R.R. No. 1,
Winnipeg, Man.

About forty acres of our farm is covered with trees. It is a rolling land and supplies us with our firewood. Last year we completely cleared one hill of trees; it is an island in the midst of a forested area so to speak. One day this fall, before the snow had fallen, I was out walking in our woodlot. When I came to the place where the trees had been cut the previous winter (the island we call it), I found that it was covered with rabbits' fur. It seems that the coyotes (there are very many of them this year) are using the island as a dining-room. They dine on the unfortunate rabbits there.

W. Gresnik.

Box 43, Two Hills, Alta.

Our Collie had two pups and they ran wild in the bush this summer for four months while we were staying in Alberta. We caught them when we got home and tied the pup up so he wouldn't run wild again. Whenever I play my piano-accordion the pup sits up, points his nose in the air and howls.

Rodney Goodwin.

Trossachs, Sask.
Box 1082, Weyburn, Sask.

My brother made a boat in shop at school last year, and Daddy got him a motor for it. We wanted to have some fun with it, so we went to Island Park, near Clyde, one Sunday. My sister and I put on our bathing suits and took turns riding on the front of the boat and dropping off to swim in the waves when we turned. I saw a little baby duck, so I swam after it and caught it. I brought it to the shore and showed it to all the boys and girls there. It was very small, but it did not seem frightened. It darted away very swiftly when I let it go. I would have liked to have kept it, but I was afraid it would die.

Joyce Durling.

Westlock, Alta.

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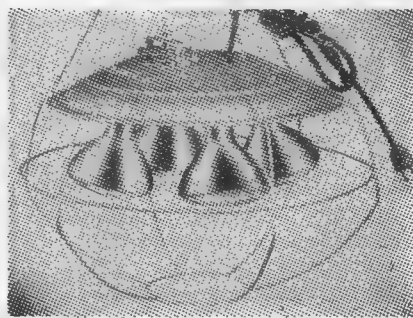


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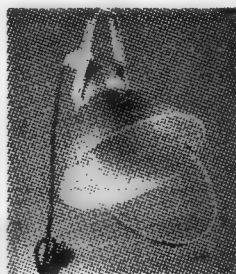
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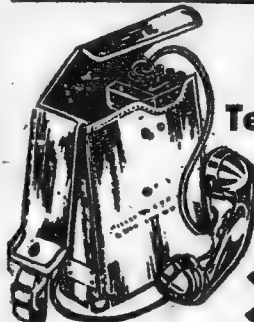


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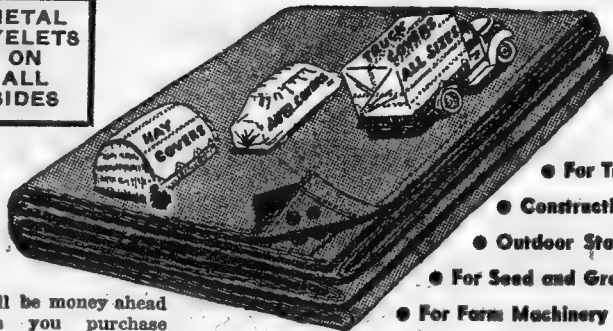
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Is Freemasonry an Enemy of the Christian Church?

By DR. FRANK S. MORLEY, Ph.D. (Edin.) B.D.

ARCHITECTURE is man's characteristic mark on the earth. It is universal and timeless. From the beginning man was a builder. He has not been content with utilitarian structure. The builders of the Tower of Babel said, "Go to, let us build us a city and a tower whose top may reach unto heaven". So always man has shown his religious strivings in his structures, the quest of his spirit for truth, goodness, and beauty whether it be in the Parthenon, the Pyramids, or in the astounding masonry of Tiahuanaco of the amazing Incan civilization.

Thus it is not surprising if a great brotherhood should be formed about something that is instinctive in the most primitive man, his creative urge to build.

In China

Indeed since Masonry is natural to man, it is also the most ancient of the organizations of man. This is denied by some, but any examination of evidence justifies its antiquity. The oldest classic of China, twenty centuries before Christ, urged, "Ye officers of the Government, apply the compasses".

The Great Learning, five hundred years before Christ, exhorted men to abstain from doing unto others what they would not that men should do to them, "and this is called the principle of acting on the square". The sixth Book of the Philosophy of Mencius relates, "A Master Mason, in teaching apprentices, makes use of the compasses and the square. Ye who are engaged in the pursuit of wisdom must also make use of the compass and the square". Cleopatra's Needle, dating back to the fifteenth century before Christ, was taken from Heliopolis, centre of the Sun God worship, to Alexandria and in 1878 it was given to the United States by a Khedive of Egypt and placed in Central Park, New York. The Masonic emblems are found in its foundation. Solomon's Temple, at its time the wonder of the world, was built by a guild called the Dionysian Artificers, pledged to secrecy, imported from Phoenicia.

In ancient Rome these Dionysian Artificers were known as the College of Architects, with religious rites of initiation and an organization in form like the modern Masonic Lodge. Their influence on Rome was so great that it has been called "A Masonic Built City".

A Carpenter

These Collegia were much impressed with the fact that the Founder of Christianity was a carpenter and undoubtedly prepared the way for Christianity in the Roman Empire. Perhaps this was one reason for the per-

secution and dispersal of the Collegia by Diocletian. The survivors fled to the island of Comacina and revived as a most influential guild of Freemasons who were responsible for most of the finest architecture of the Middle Ages.

Why Is Masonry Hated?

There have always been sporadic criticism and persecution of Masonry. Sometimes it has been cruel and vicious. Today in Spain all Masons are either dead or in prison. Dictators have always hated Masonry, and that is significant. Why? Let us see what Masonry is.

It is not a political party. It does not advocate any social or economic order. Nevertheless Masonry is severely criticized in all countries. I have received much literature from Britain containing criticisms. Groups of Churchmen in this country have been bitterly critical. Again, why?

Secrecy

It is accused of secrecy which is held to be socially divisive. But as Newton says, "There is a common notion that Masonry is a secret society, whereas its one great secret is that it has no secret. Its principles are published abroad in its writings; its purposes and laws are known and the times and places of its meetings". Such organizations are constructive of a good society and certainly not destructive. Masons are good citizens. They have to be.

Some have held that the numerous vows required lead to insincerity. Truly many men are insincere in their vows. But then that is true in the Church. I have known men and women to have their children baptized in Church and they took solemn vows. Many of them have made no effort whatever to keep the vows. They were just plain liars. Others have taken vows on joining the Church. The ink was scarcely dry on their signatures before they had denied everything to which they were pledged. Insincerity is not confined to Masonic vows.

Others contend that the Lodge becomes a substitute for the Church. That is bad, where it happens, but have we any evidence that these men would go to Church anyway?

Masonry is also condemned by some for creating the idea that salvation can come without Christ. Now I believe that Christ is essential to salvation. I believe that there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. But let us recognize that most people in the world do not believe it. Surely, then, it is a good thing to have some meeting place of men of different faiths. And if my faith be strong, if I show forth Jesus Christ in my living, will not I have some influence to draw these others to Christ? **THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN THE MASONIC ORDER CONTRADICTORY TO CHRISTIAN FAITH AND PRACTICE.**

Masonry is criticized for using up the enthusiasm and spare time of the layman. But would he devote that energy to the Church if he did not give to the Lodge?

Masonry is condemned as a social club. Is there anything wrong with being a social club, a good, clean

club? Certainly Masonry is much more than that and when it is merely a club it loses its dynamic.

Some superstitious and ignorant people think it is anti-Roman Catholic. There is not one word in its ritual anti-Roman Catholic. On the contrary, Roman Catholics have belonged to Lodges and have been Masters of Lodges. The idea that it is a Protestant organization has no foundation whatever.

Now there are some practices of Masonry which distress me. Too often they flout the Sabbath. They hold breakfasts which discourage Church attendance to put it mildly. They hold practices which prohibit Church attendance. But these could be corrected. Essentially Masonry exhibits the most civilized and charitable aspect of humanity.

The Contributions of Masonry

Masonry stands for **UNITY**. In a world splintered by racial and national groups, divided by class enmities, embittered by social and economic strife, Masonry draws all men into fraternity. Certainly the Church with its emphasis on denominationalism, its rivalries and struggle for power, too often sets a bad example and at times increases rather than diminishes the antagonisms of mankind.

Masonry stands for **THE SIMPLICITY OF TRUE RELIGION** — the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, the moral law, the golden rule, and Eternal Life at the last. Too often again the Church has brought people into a maze of incomprehensible theology with its "hocus pocus" (originally from "hoc est corpus" — "This is my body") and its silly superstitions that are often an affront to man's intelligence and moral nature.

Masonry stands for **CHARITY**. The charitable work done by Masonry is tremendous. It is not publicized, except in such magnificent enterprises as the Shrine hospitals. Not even Masons know how much kindness and help are given by their Lodges. The Shrine hospitals, indeed much of their charitable deeds, are for all people without regard to religion or race. "Not, what is your creed? But what is your need?" is their motto.

Masonry stands for **RELIGION CARRIED INTO LIFE**. A Mason is commanded to practice rectitude in his life. The foundation of his building is faith in God and from that foundation is to be erected a life of restraint and integrity. Justice and honour in all dealings are demanded of him.

Masonry stands for **BROTHERHOOD**. Here is the saddest lack of the Church. When I went to Ireland last summer it was astonishing how much friendship I found in the Masonic Lodges. They received me as they received all other visitors with warmest cordiality. In Churches I have known men and women to come for years and remain strangers. Churches lack techniques for visiting the sick. They lack techniques of assimilation of newcomers. Men may come to Church and be the bitterest of enemies. You can't go to a Lodge and be at enmity with a brother. There is some definite failure in the Church organization that does not create brotherhood.

Let judgment begin at the House of God! Let the Church fulfil her functions truly. Certainly in Britain today the Church is in no position to throw stones. With declining membership, with inertia in so much of her life, with her failure to grasp and hold loyalties, with much formal worship and a sad lack of reality in kindness and friendship, she should be slow in condemnation of others. But what of us?

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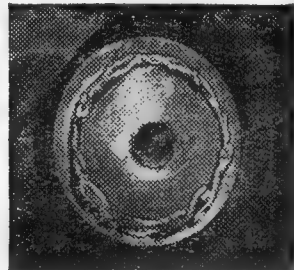
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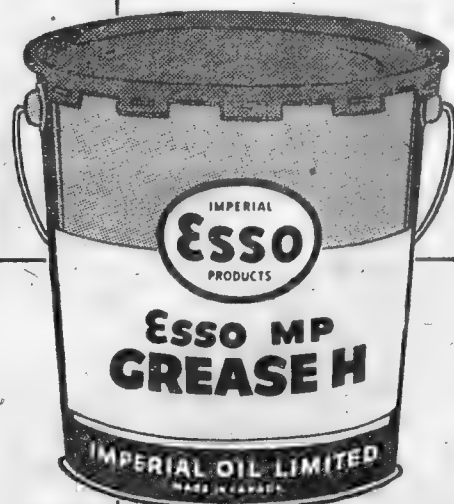
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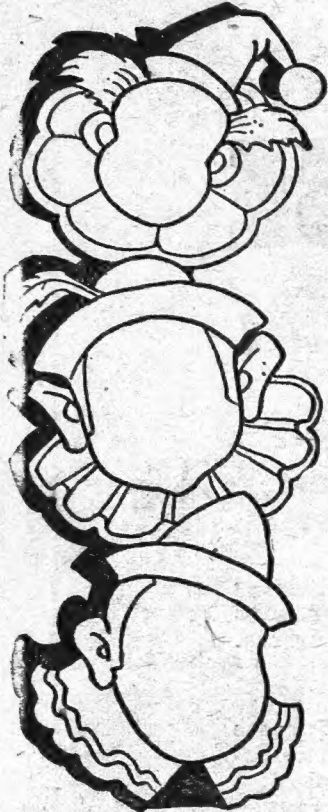
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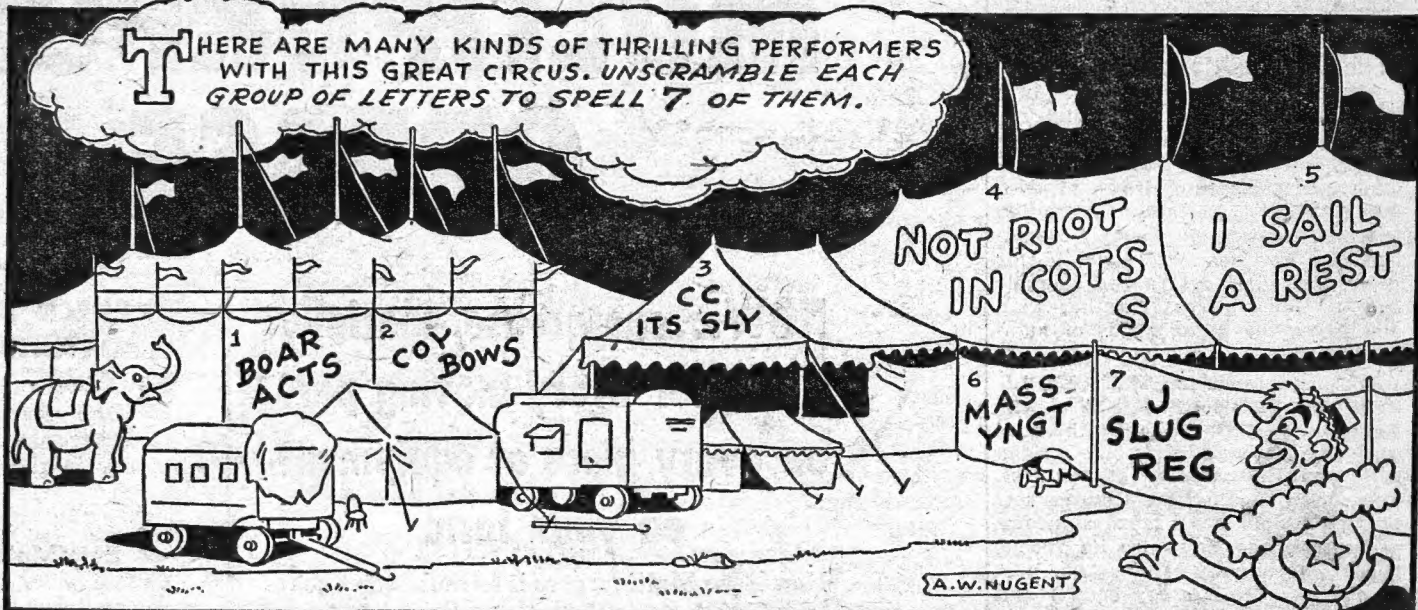
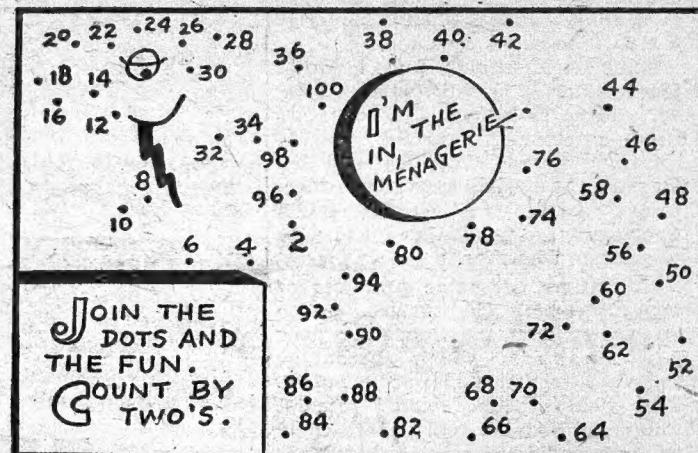
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FUNNY FACES BEFORE
THE SHOW STARTS!



STEP RIGHT
THIS WAY,
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THE RUBBER
FACE MAN



TURN HIS HEAD AROUND →



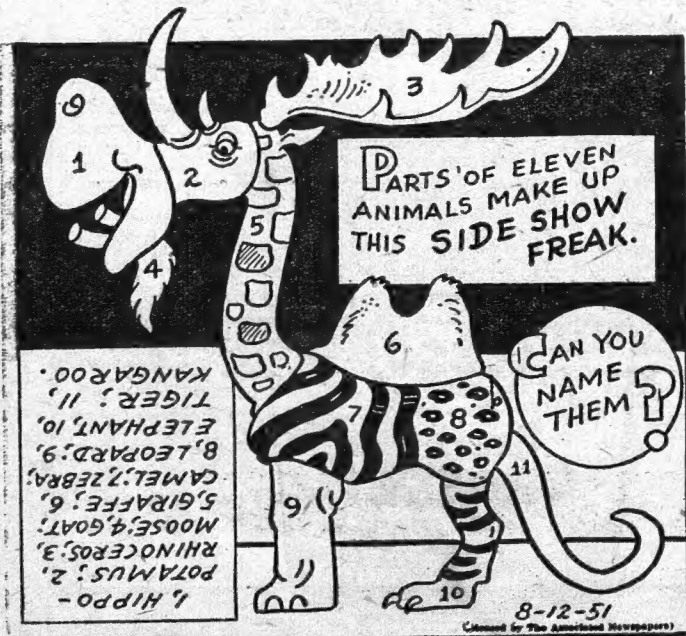
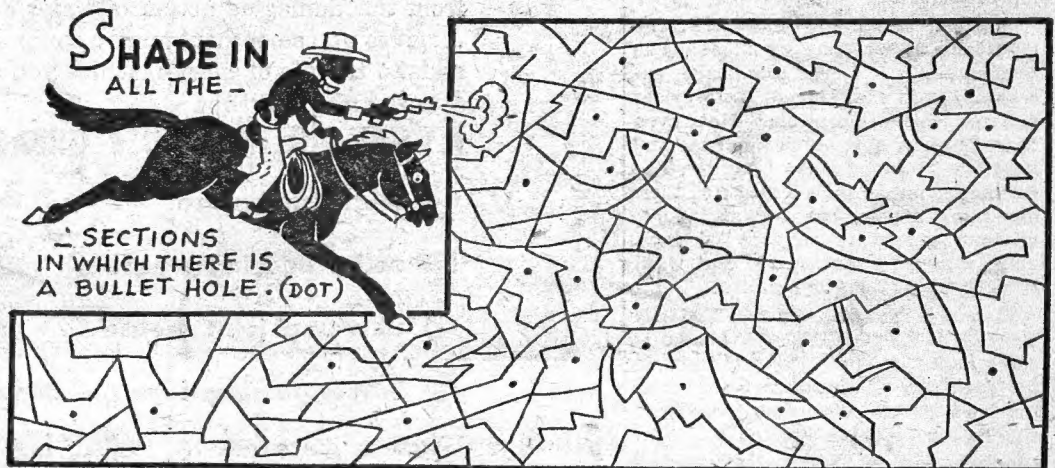
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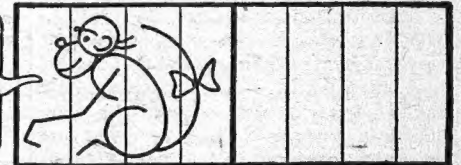
PLAY
AROUND
WITH THIS ONE.
SPELL TWO
ANIMALS,
A BIRD AND
A FISH BY
USING ONLY
THE LETTERS
IN THE WORD
"CLOWNING."

8-12-51
(Reprinted by The Associated Newspapers)

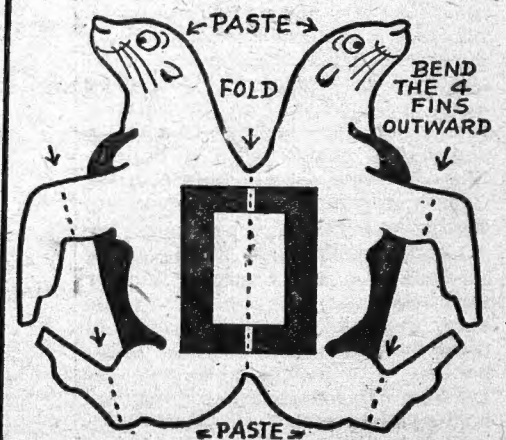
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THE EMPTY CAGE.



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AND
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TO MAKE
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ON MY
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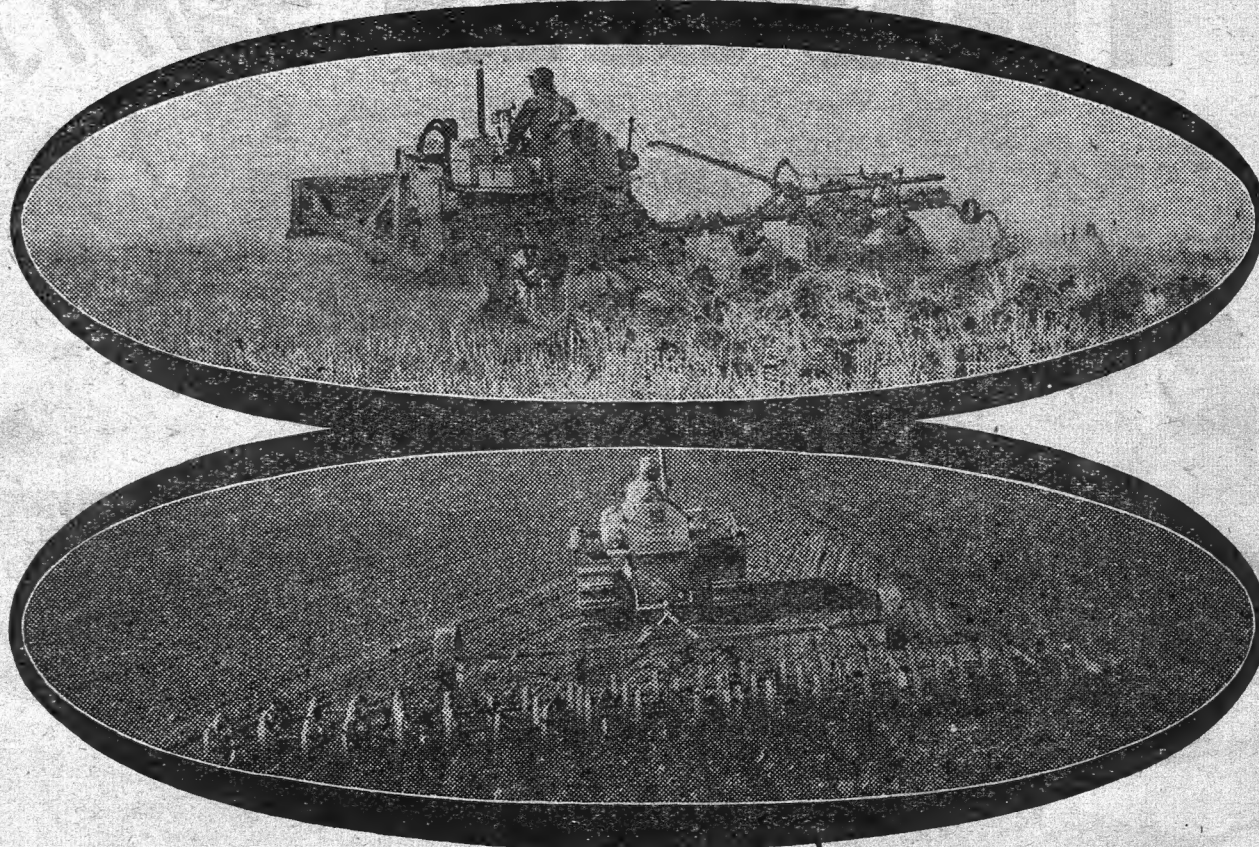
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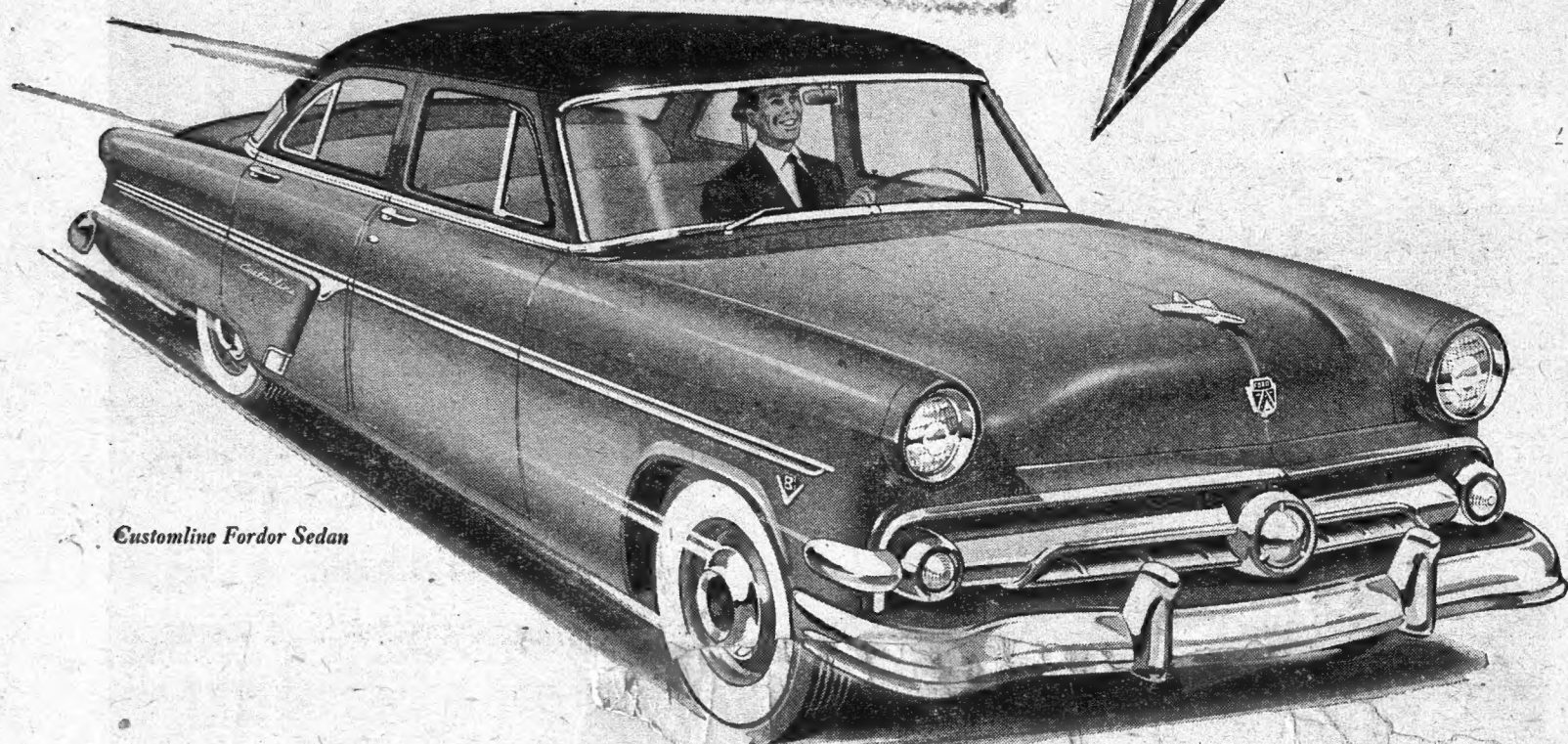
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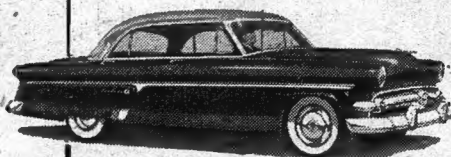
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(*White sidewall tires, fender skirts, radio, Power Steering, Power Brakes
and Fordomatic Drive optional at extra cost on certain models.)

The wonderful new '54 Ford features a new, wider range of models . . . new, smoother-than-ever V-8 power . . . new easy-driving features and deep-down riding comfort . . . to make Canada's "worth-more" car *worth still more in '54*. The new 120-Hp. V-8 engine in all Customline and Crestline models is the finest V-8 ever to power a Ford. It offers *more power* than ever before—and that means *more smoothness, faster acceleration, greater safety and flexibility* in all your driving! The famous 110-Hp. Strato-Star V-8 in all Mainline models, tested over millions of motoring miles, combines smooth, dependable V-8 power with amazing fuel economy. Both engines are the products of over 20 years' experience in building V-8 engines . . . more than all other manufacturers combined!

Ford for '54 offers new power features—"Master-Guide" Power Steering*, Power Brakes* and, of course, fully automatic Fordomatic* Drive—that make all driving easy and effortless. Ford's deep-down riding comfort rivals that of far more costly cars.

Your Ford Dealer invites you to test-drive the new '54 Ford now. See for yourself why Ford V-8 is *worth still more in '54*.



Crestline Sedan

... the all-new style-leader in its field ...
distinctive in
appearance, outstanding
in riding comfort.

PRESENTING 2 THRILLING NEW *Crestline* MODELS



Crestline Skyliner

... utterly new and utterly different,
with a transparent top that invites
the sun and the scenery, gently
filters out heat and glare!



YOUR FORD DEALER INVITES YOU ... **COME IN! ARRANGE A TEST-DRIVE!**

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